

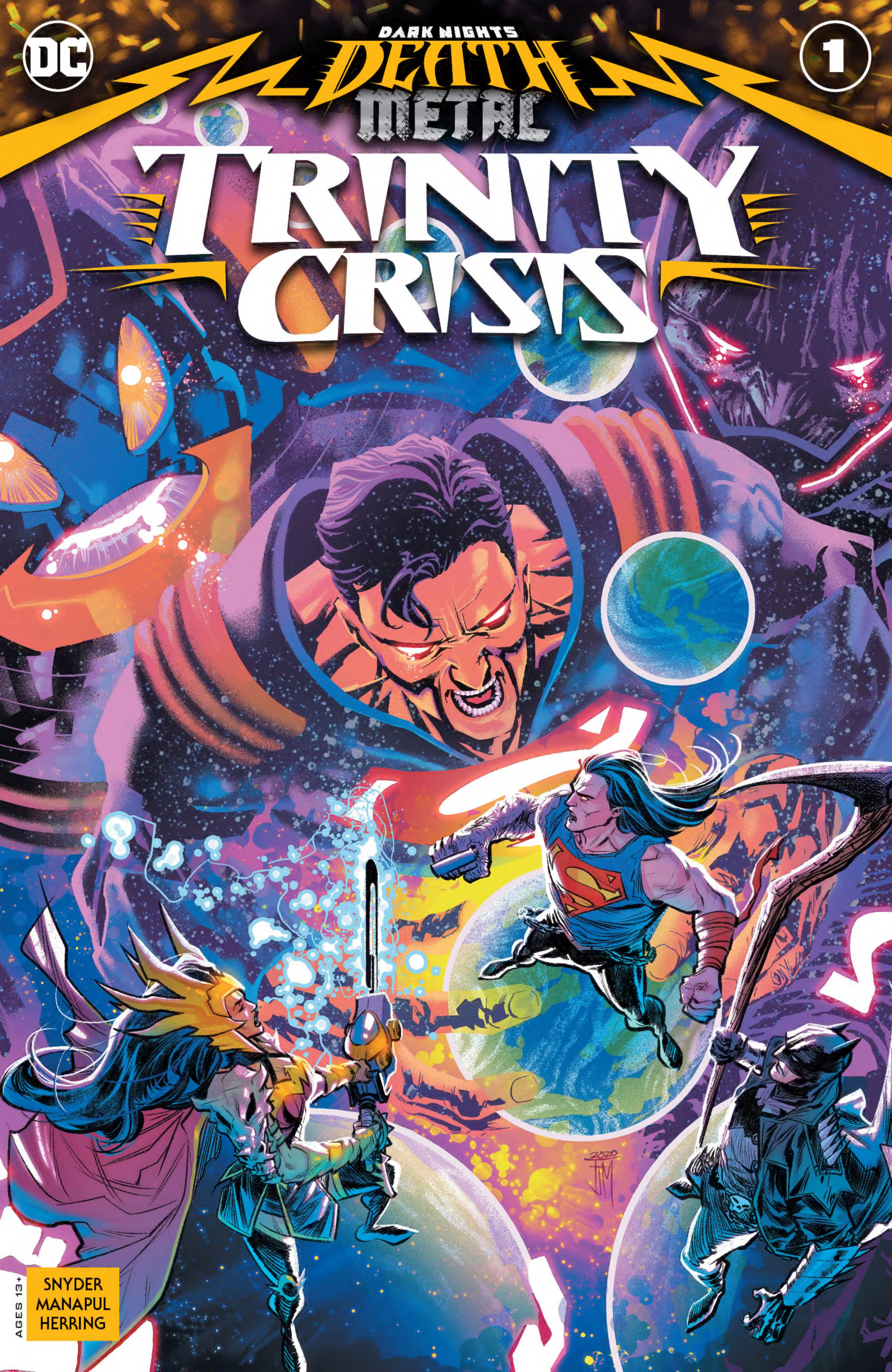


DARK NIGHTS

DEATH METAL

1

TRINITY CRISIS



AGES 13+

SNYDER
MANAPUL
HERRING



FANDOME

EXPLORE THE
MULTIVERSE

DEAR FANS,
WE HEARD YOU!

SEPTEMBER 12

GO BEHIND THE SCENES. EXPLORE FURTHER.
MORE TIME. MORE CONTROL.
THE ADVENTURE CONTINUES.



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PART
ONE

"CRISIS."

THE WORD
ALONE COMMANDS
ATTENTION LIKE
NO OTHER.

FOR WHAT IS A
CRISIS IF NOT A MOMENT OF
ABSOLUTE BREAKDOWN WHEN
EVERYTHING--EVERYTHING--
IS CALLED INTO QUESTION?



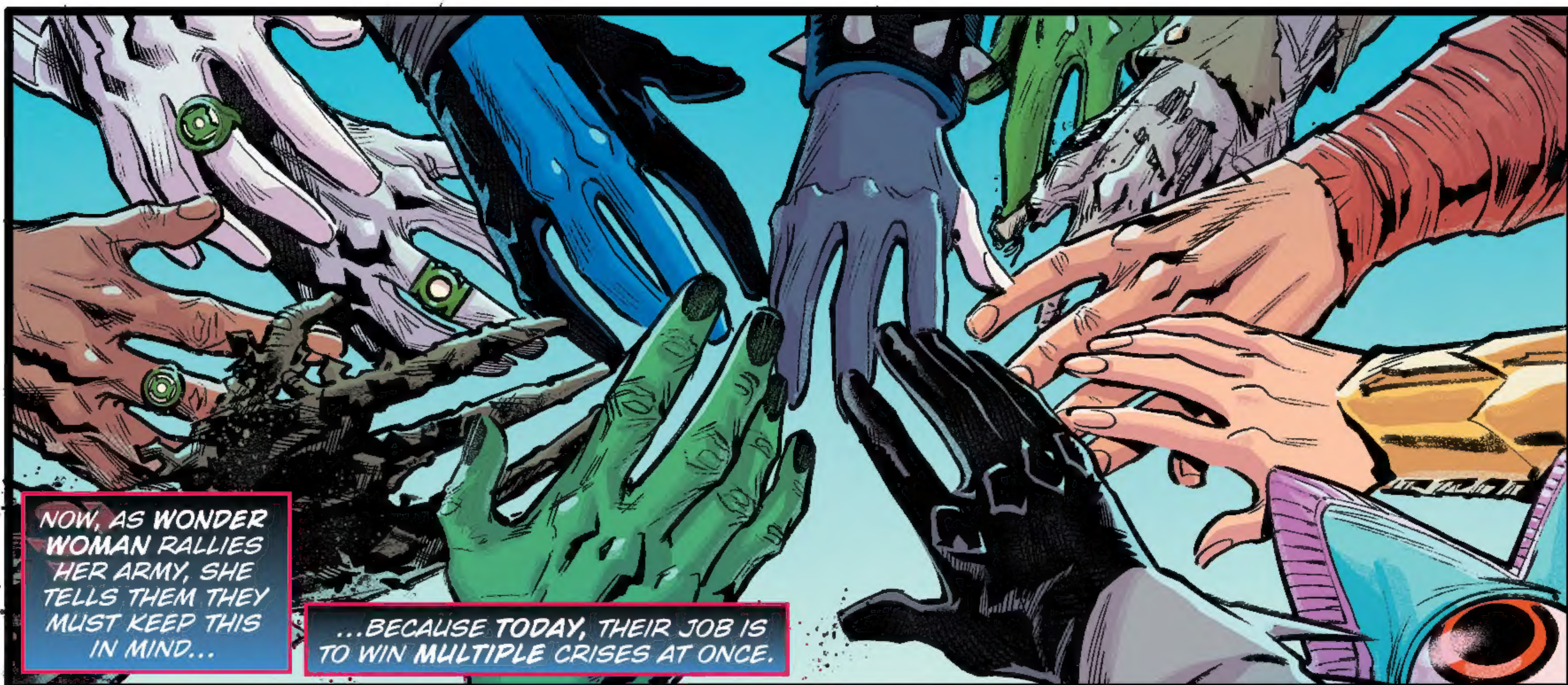
THEY ARE THE HEROES'
TOUGHEST BATTLES.

FOR IN THE END,
THEY ARE WARS FOR
THE VERY SOUL OF
THE UNIVERSE.



WORLDS DIE,
THE FABRIC OF OUR
REALITY IS TORN
ASUNDER.

EVERY SINGLE
CRISIS HAS WROUGHT
DESTRUCTION ON A NEAR-
UNIMAGINABLE SCALE.
AND EACH WAS BARELY
WON, EVEN WITH EVERY
HERO FIGHTING AS ONE.



NOW, AS WONDER WOMAN RALLIES HER ARMY, SHE TELLS THEM THEY MUST KEEP THIS IN MIND...

...BECAUSE TODAY, THEIR JOB IS TO WIN MULTIPLE CRISES AT ONCE.



WAITWAITWAIT? UH, ENOUGH WITH THE HANDS. BATS, TELL ME SHE DIDN'T JUST MEAN MULTIPLE. AS IN TWO?! LIKE, DOUBLE THE--

NO, SHE MEANT MULTIPLE AS IN THREE.

PERPETUA IS THE MOTHER OF OUR UNIVERSE, BUT ALSO THE MOTHER OF CRISES.

SHE THRIVES ON CRISIS ENERGY.

IT'S WHAT SHE'S USING TO DESTROY OUR REALITY AND IT'S COMING FROM THE DARK MULTIVERSE.

THE BATMAN WHO LAUGHS CREATED THREE STABLE WORLDS DOWN THERE WHERE THE MAJOR CRISES ARE CONTINUALLY HAPPENING, ALL TO GIVE HER THE CRISIS ENERGY SHE NEEDS TO DECIMATE THE MULTIVERSE.

BATMAN, SUPERMAN, AND I WILL INFILTRATE CASTLE BAT WHILE JARRO CLOAKS US FROM DETECTION AND WE'LL ENTER THE DARK THROUGH A PORTAL INSIDE.

WE WILL FIND THE THREE CRISIS WORLDS AND CAPTURE THEIR ENERGY VIA THESE ALFRED BOXES, CREATED BY DARKFATHER TO HARNESS POWER.

HARLEY, SWAMP THING, AND HEX, YOU'LL ACCOMPANY US.



CASTLE BAT?
THAT PLACE IS
CRAWLING WITH
EVIL BAT-THUGS.
PLUS IT'S
ALIVE!

NO
OFFENSE TO
THE STARFISH
HERE, BUT YOU
REALLY THINK
HE CAN BLOCK
THAT MANY
MINDS?



WELL, IF YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT
OFFENDING PEOPLE, HOSS, TRY
NOT WEARING THE SAME PAIR OF
CLOTHES YOU WERE BURIED IN
A CENTURY AND A HALF
AGO?

HELL,
EVEN THE DAMN
PARADEMONS WERE
RUNNING.

I'M THE
GREATEST
PSYCHIC IN THE
UNIVERSE. OF
COURSE I CAN
BLOCK THEM
ALL!

I CAN,
RIGHT?

OF
COURSE
YOU
CAN...



...BUT TO BE
SAFE, YOU'LL USE THIS
PSYCHIC AMPLIFIER,
DESIGNED BY MISTER
MIRACLE.

MADE OF
GLASS FROM THE
FIRE-PITS HERE ON
APOKOLIPS, AND 8TH
METAL BINDINGS, SO
IT SHOULD INCREASE
YOUR TELEPATHIC
ABILITIES AT **LEAST**
FIVEFOLD.

AND...OF
COURSE IT
LOOKS LIKE A
#\$\$* JAR.



DIANA,
YOU AND I
WENT INTO THE DARK
TOGETHER IN THE LAST
GREAT BATTLE. THAT
REALM...WE SHOULD ALL
GO TOGETHER AS
THE LEAGUE.*

WE **ARE** ALL
THE LEAGUE, HAWKGIRL,
BUT TO BREACH CASTLE
BAT, WE MUST USE
STEALTH. JARRO CAN'T
CLOAK EVERY HERO
HERE FROM
DETECTION.

*SEE THE ORIGINAL
DK: METAL FINALE.
--MARIE



NO ONE
TELLS ME
WHAT I CAN
AND CAN'T
DO.

BUT YEAH,
THAT'S TOO
MANY.



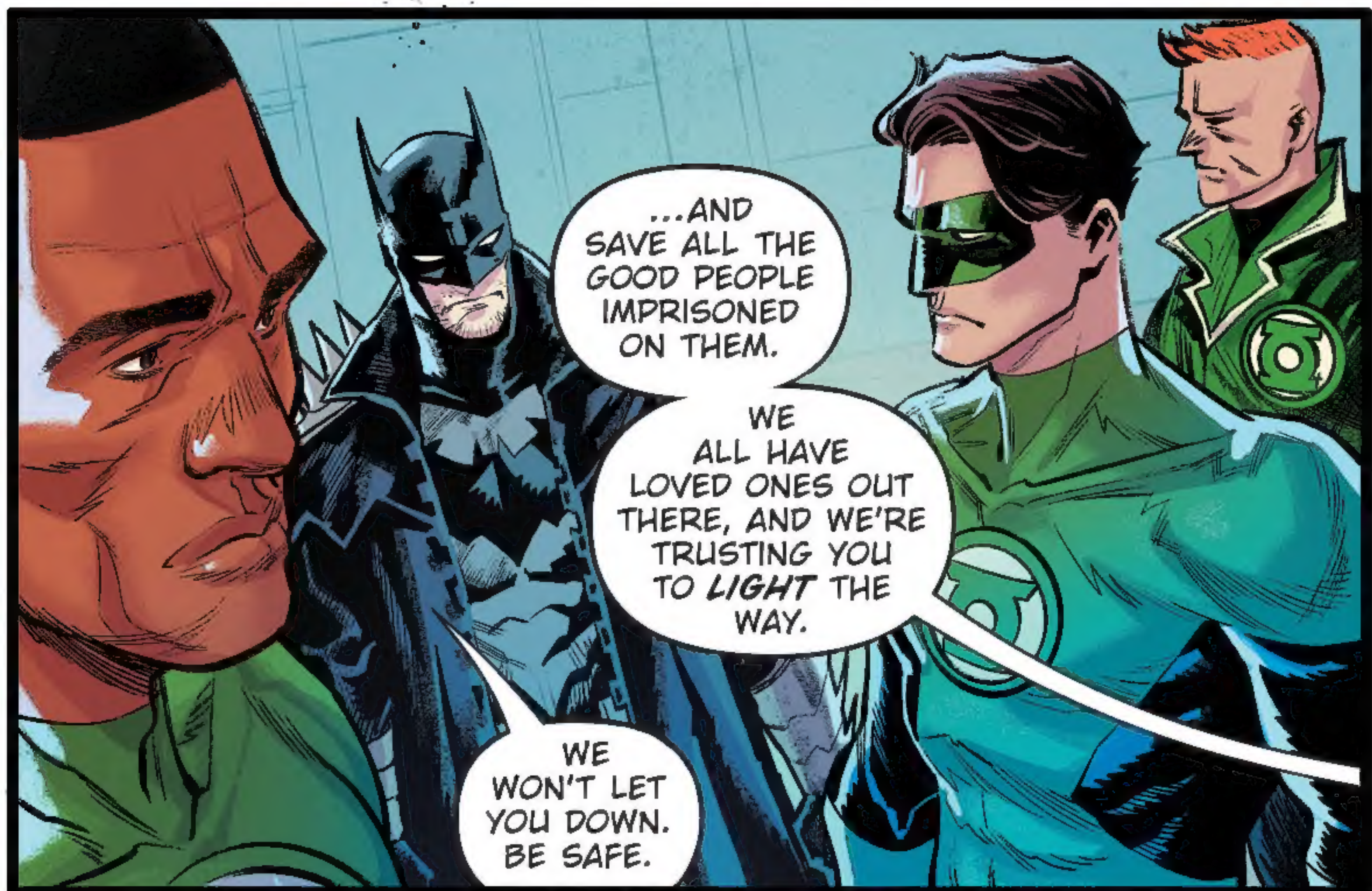
EVEN
IN YOUR
NEW
PICKLE
JAR?

IF
YOU--

ENOUGH.
DIANA'S PLAN IS
OUR BEST HOPE
HERE. WE NEED
TO **ACT**.

MARTIAN
MANHUNTER, YOU AND
HAWKGIRL TAKE A TEAM TO
DESTROY PERPETUA'S THRONE
SO WE CAN REROUTE THE
ENERGY TO WALLY WHEN
THE TIME COMES.

JOHN, YOU
LEAD THE **LANTERNS** TO
TAKE OUT THOSE **ANTENNAE**
ON THE REMAINING EARTHS
OUT IN THE MULTIVERSE...



...AND
SAVE ALL THE
GOOD PEOPLE
IMPRISONED
ON THEM.

WE
ALL HAVE
LOVED ONES OUT
THERE, AND WE'RE
TRUSTING YOU
TO **LIGHT** THE
WAY.

WE
WON'T LET
YOU DOWN.
BE SAFE.

EVERYONE ELSE, GO TO THEMYSKIRA AND WAIT FOR OUR RETURN. IF WE SUCCEED, ALL PERPETUA'S FORCES WILL DESCEND ON US.

ALSO, HEAR ME WHEN I SAY THAT FOR ALL THEIR HORRORS, THE HISTORY OF CRISES IS A HISTORY OF OUR TRIUMPHS.

ONE LONG THREAD OF MOMENTS WHEN WE ALL CAME TOGETHER TO SAVE EVERYTHING WE CARED ABOUT.

THIS MOMENT, NOW, IS THE CULMINATION OF THOSE. JUST AS WE WON THEN, WE WILL WIN NOW. THERE WILL BE LOSSES, BUT WE WILL DIE FIGHTING AS ONE SWORD, ONE SHIELD, ONE HEART.

BUT HEY, DON'T DIE.

I ACTUALLY FEEL I'D BE BETTER ON THE TEAM FIGHTING THE BIG COSMIC MOM? ANYONE WANT TO TRADE?

TEEN TITANS? DON'T YOU LOOK AWAY FROM ME, BEAST BOY.

IT'S TIME. REMEMBER, WHOEVER WINS A CRISIS WRITES THE FUTURE. THIS IS OUR CHANCE.

WE WIN TOGETHER, THE UNIVERSE WILL BE OURS TO MAKE BRIGHT AGAIN.





THE LIVING HEADQUARTERS OF
THE BATMAN WHO LAUGHS.



WARBEAT

GRIM KNIGHT

BATMAZO

ANYTHING?

NO SIGN OF
ANYONE...

MIND HUNTER

"...BUT STAY ALERT."

THIS PLACE HAS TRIP WIRES WITHIN TRIP WIRES...

COW PIE IS RIGHT. I CAN SHIELD US PSYCHICALLY, BUT IT WON'T DO ANYTHING FOR ALL THE TRAPS THE GRIM GUY HAS SET.

I CAN TRY TO FLY THROUGH THEM ALL. THE ANTI-LIFE IS GROWING IN ME. I'M STRUGGLING TO STAY IN CONTROL, BUT--

YOU'VE SAVED US ENOUGH TIMES, CLARK. JUST STAY FOCUSED ON WHO YOU ARE.

BESIDES, IF WE'VE LEARNED ANYTHING ABOUT THE ONE WHO LAUGHS, IT'S THAT HE PLANS.

THERE MUST BE A DOZEN BATMEN FOR EACH OF US IN THERE.

YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN. THERE'S NO WAY IN.

I'LL GO. THERE AIN'T A LOT LEFT OF ME ANYWAY. I'LL DISTRACT THEM.

SOUNDS GOOD! I SAY GO FOR IT!

WAIT...

THERE MAY BE ANOTHER WAY.

THERE ISN'T MUCH GREEN ANYMORE, WITH THE PARLIAMENT MOSTLY BURNT.

BUT IF I PULL WHAT'S LEFT OF THEM INTO ME...THE FULL POWER...

SWAMP THING, THE GREEN IS SPREAD BETWEEN LIFE-FORMS SO THAT IT CANNOT BE KILLED. IF YOU TAKE IT INTO YOURSELF, A CLOSED SYSTEM, YOU AND THE GREEN WILL BE--

VULNERABLE. YES. BUT THE GREEN IS DYING AS WE SPEAK, OLD FRIEND. AS AM I.

YOU SAID IT YOURSELF: ONE SWORD, ONE SHIELD, ONE HEART. WITH THE POWER OF THE GREEN I CAN OPEN UP A TUNNEL.



BROTHERS AND
SISTERS, I AM
SORRY FOR WHAT
I MUST DO.

DO NOT MOURN
US, ALEC HOLLAND.
WE WILL ENDURE
IN YOU.

THE GREEN
IS LIFE. HONOR
IT BY WINNING,
BY RESTORING
LIFE TO THE
WORLD!

WE SHALL
HELP YOU...

WE GATHER
THE GREEN FROM
EVERY CORNER...

WHATEVER
LITTLE IS
LEFT...

SO IT
WORKED?

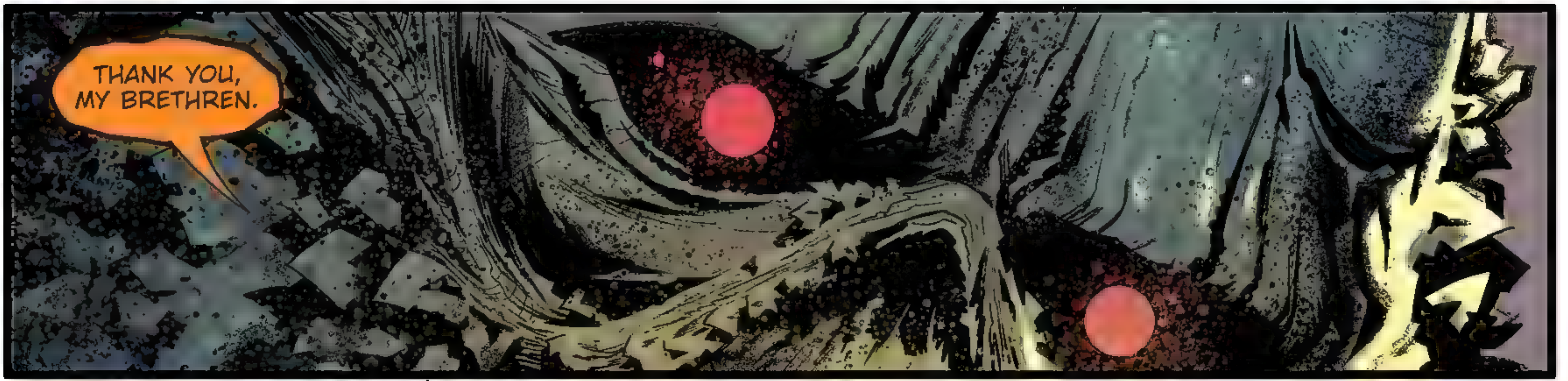
...AND
GIVE IT TO
YOU. THE
FINAL SWAMP
THING.

THIS WAY!
THROUGH THE
TUNNEL!



IT
WORKED.





THANK YOU,
MY BRETHREN.

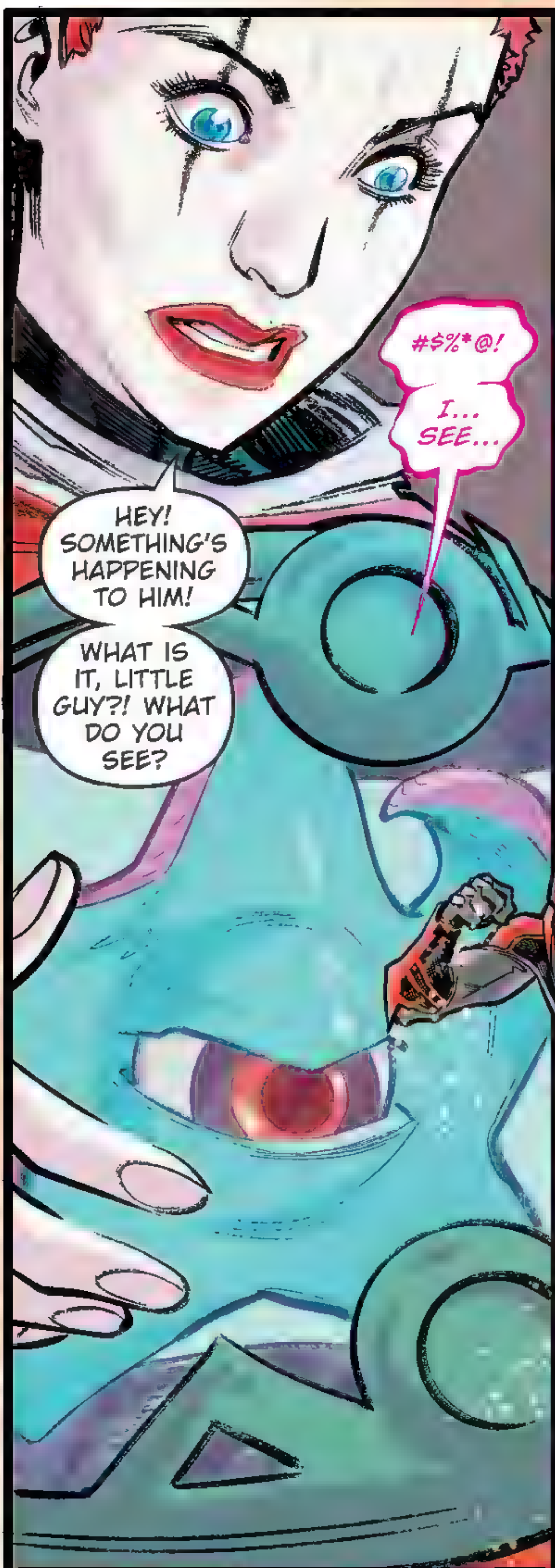


THE CASTLE
SHOULD BE UP
AHEAD.

REMEMBER, THE WORLDS
WE'RE HEADED TO SHOULD
BE CONSTANT. THE SAME
EVENTS HAPPENING
OVER AND OVER.

THE DARK IS REACTIVE TO
OUR THOUGHTS, SO IF WE
FOCUS ON THE VICTORIOUS
MOMENT, THE **END**, WE
SHOULD LAND THERE,
AND THIS WILL BE
EASY.

IF WE
DON'T, AND
WE LAND IN THE
WRONG MOMENT,
WE'RE IN
DEEP--



#\$%*@!

I...
SEE...

HEY!
SOMETHING'S
HAPPENING
TO HIM!

WHAT IS
IT, LITTLE
GUY?! WHAT
DO YOU
SEE?



THE BATMAN
WHO LAUGHS...HE'S
BECOME SOMETHING
MUCH WORSE! AND HE'S
FOUND WALLY! HE'S
-UNH- CHASING
HIM...GAINING!

WE
NEED TO
HURRY.

IF THE ONE
WHO LAUGHS
CATCHES WALLY AND
STEALS HIS POWER, HE'LL
BE EVEN STRONGER THAN
PERPETUA. NOTHING
COULD STAND IN
THEIR WAY.

HE'LL
SIMPLY SHUT
DOWN THE
CRISIS WORLDS
ALTOGETHER
AND WE'LL
BE LOST.



HEY, JAR-GUY. THAT EYE OF YOURS, CAN YOU SEE...

...I DON'T KNOW, LIKE THE *FUTURE* AT ALL? LIKE HOW SOMEONE'S GONNA ACT MOMENTS FROM NOW?

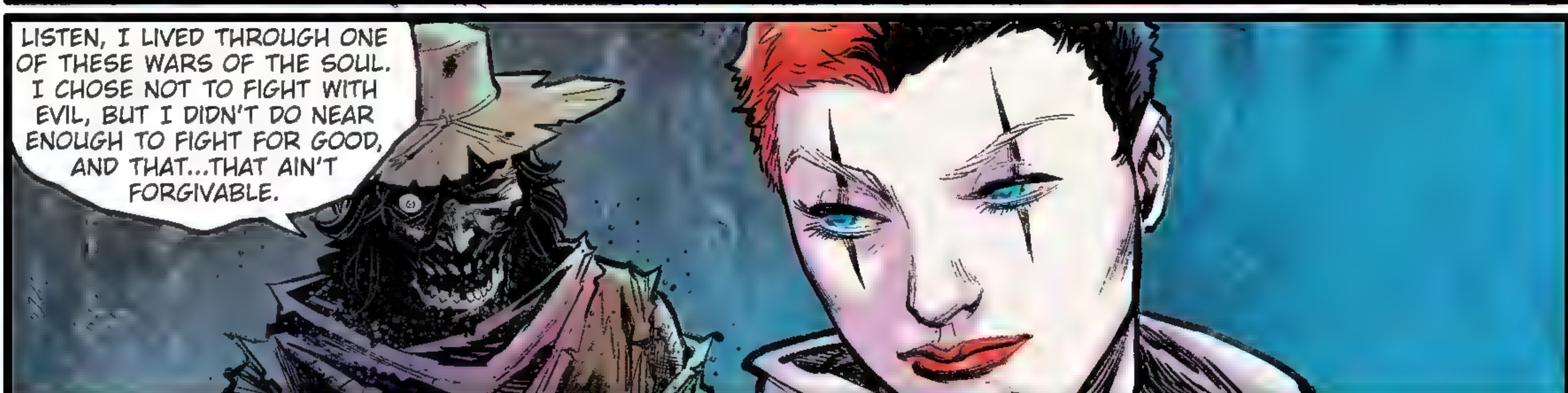
IT'S JARRO. NOT CRYSTAL BALLO.



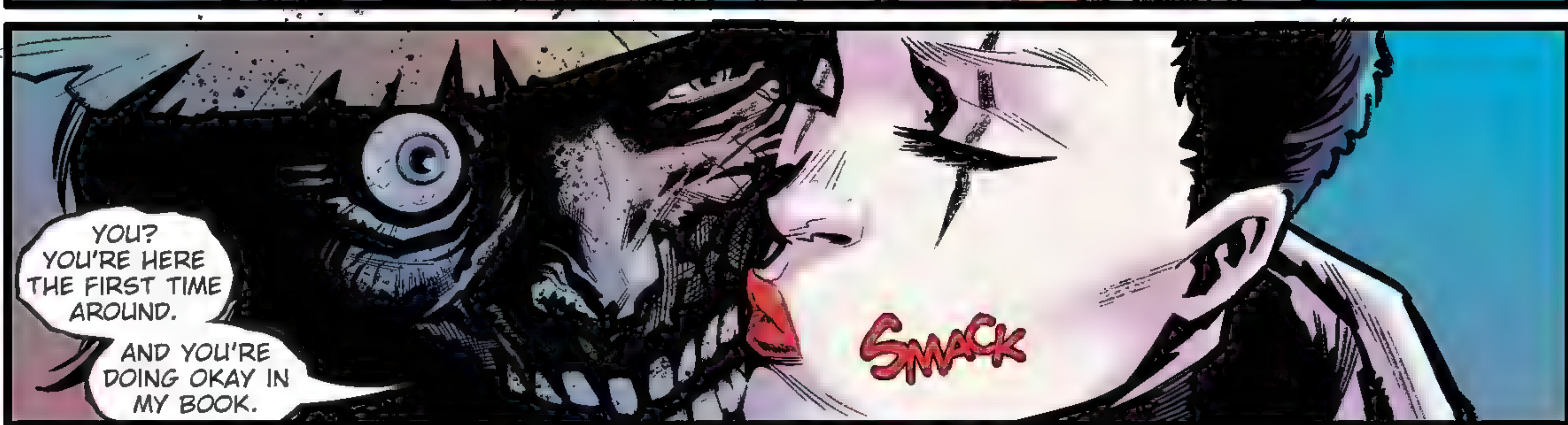
HEY, I GET IT. YOU'RE NOT THE HERO TYPE NORMALLY, AM I RIGHT?

HOW'D YOU GUESS?

NOT LIKE WONDER WOMAN DOESN'T KNOW. I MEAN IT'S CLEAR SHE PICKED YOU AND ME BECAUSE WE'RE EXPENDABLE. KEEP THE HEAVY HITTERS SAFE ON PARADISE ISLAND TILL THE REAL FIGHT STARTS. IT'S WHAT I'D DO, TOO.



LISTEN, I LIVED THROUGH ONE OF THESE WARS OF THE SOUL. I CHOSE NOT TO FIGHT WITH EVIL, BUT I DIDN'T DO NEAR ENOUGH TO FIGHT FOR GOOD, AND THAT...THAT AIN'T FORGIVABLE.



YOU? YOU'RE HERE THE FIRST TIME AROUND.

AND YOU'RE DOING OKAY IN MY BOOK.

SMACK



DID YOU JUST SLIP ME THE TONGUE?

I GOT NO CHEEK ON THAT SIDE. THERE AIN'T NOTHING ELSE TO KISS.

FAIR ENOUGH.



THE
LAST THING WE
WANT TO DO IS GO
CHARGING THROUGH.
THERE COULD BE
AN ARMY OF DARK
KNIGHTS ON THE
OTHER SIDE.

SUPERMAN,
CAN YOU LOOK
THROUGH WITH
YOUR X-RAY
VISION?

I CAN
TRY.

COME
ON...COME
ON.

EVERYONE
GET BACK! THE
WALL IS COMING
DOWN!

NO!



THROPTOR

ARK

WELL HELLO
THERE...

THE PEARL

BLACK MONDAY

KULL



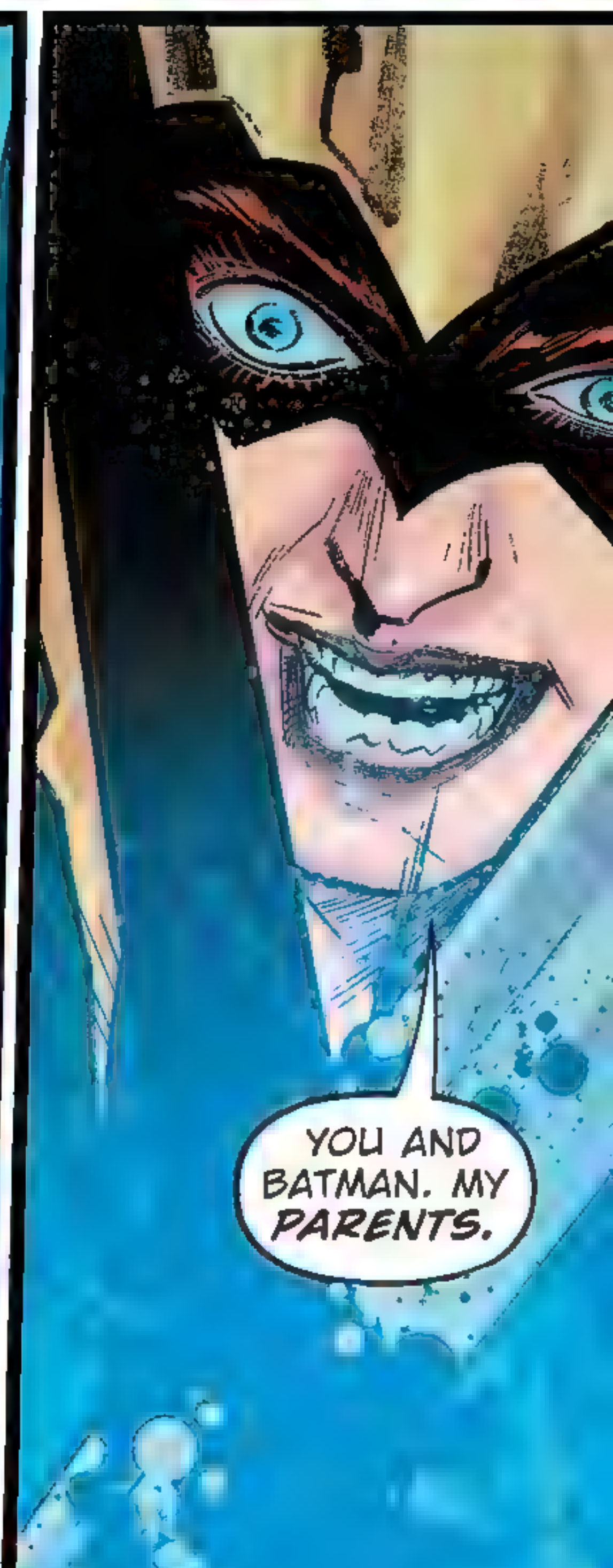
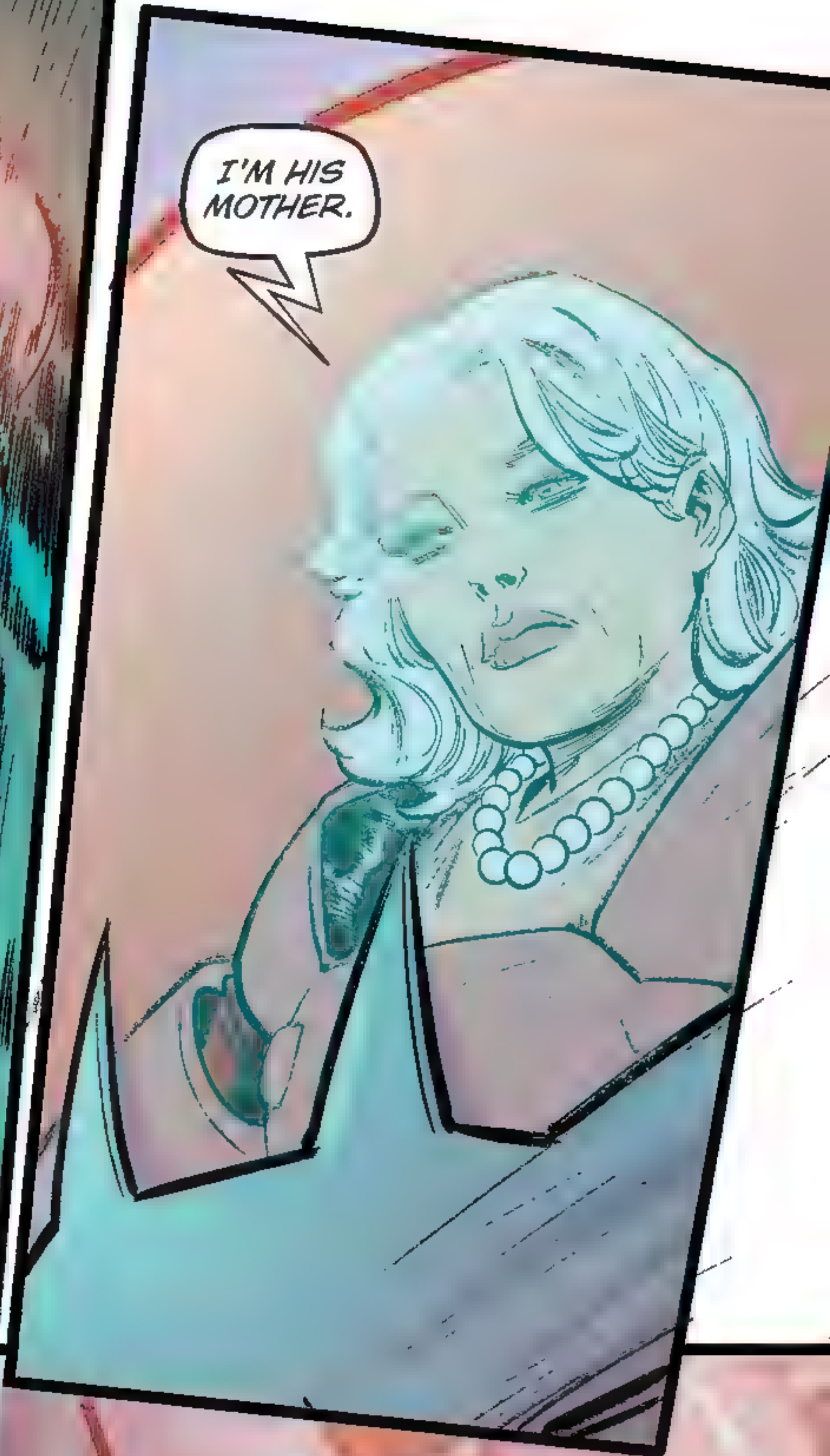
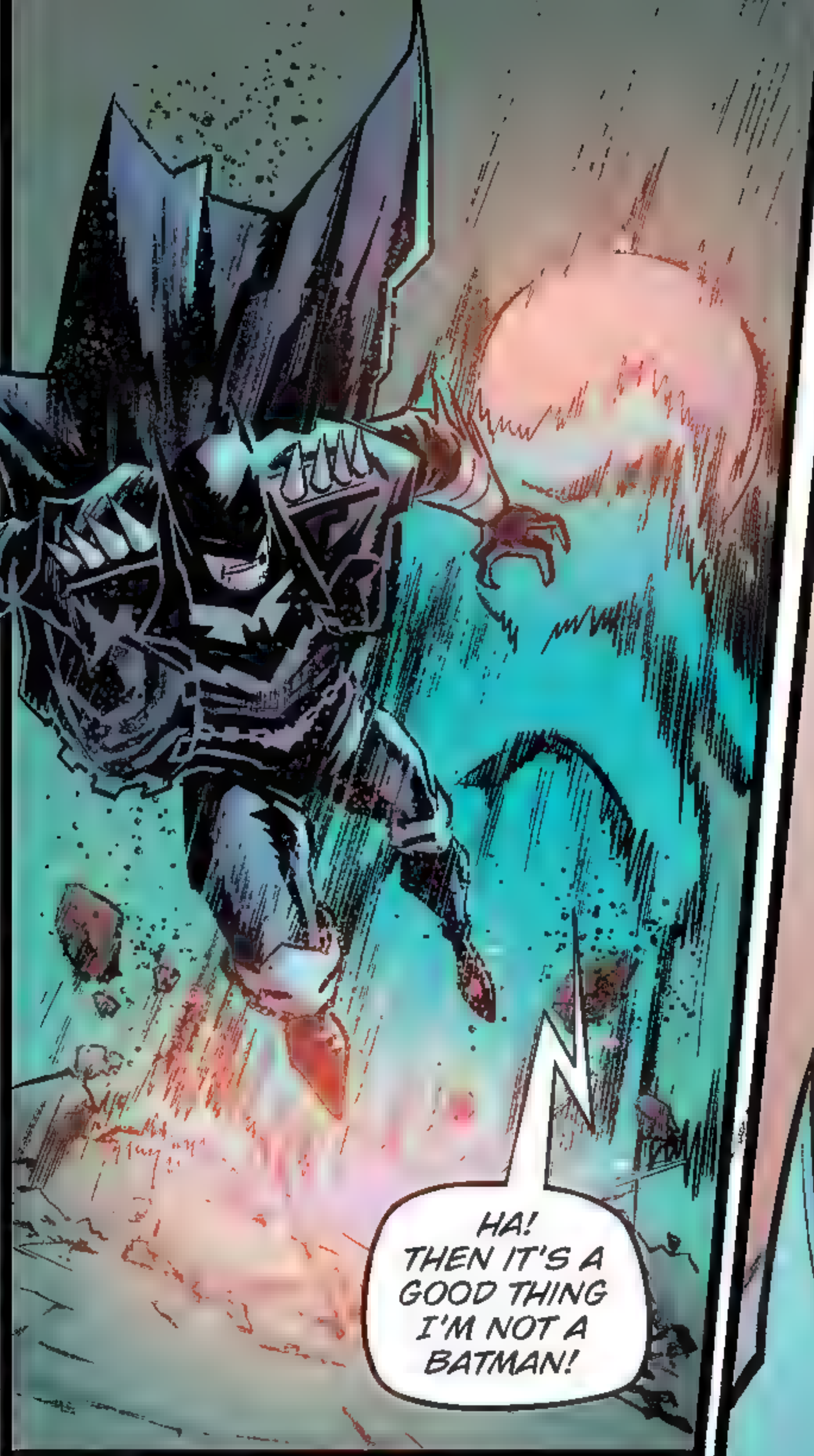
DR. QUINZEL!
WHY DO YOU FIGHT
US?! ALL OF ARKHAM
LIVES INSIDE MY
BODY!

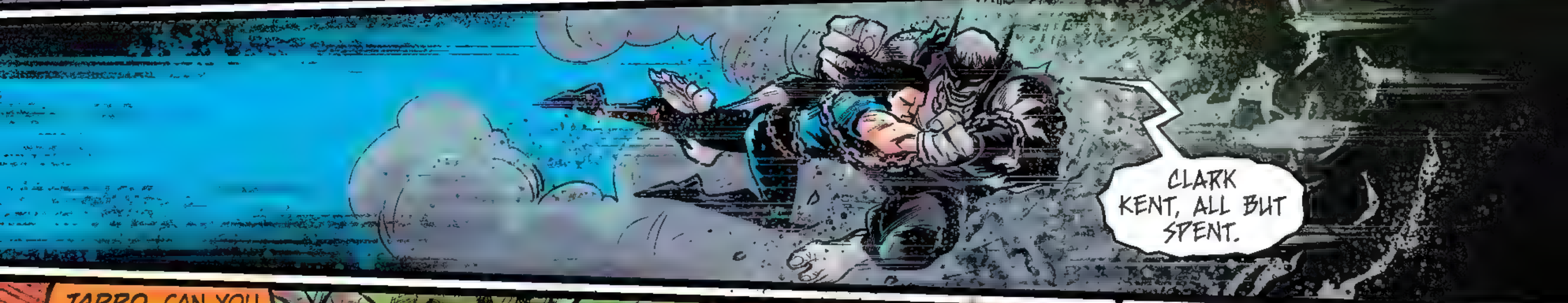
JOIN
ME AND
COME HOME
WHERE YOU
BELONG!

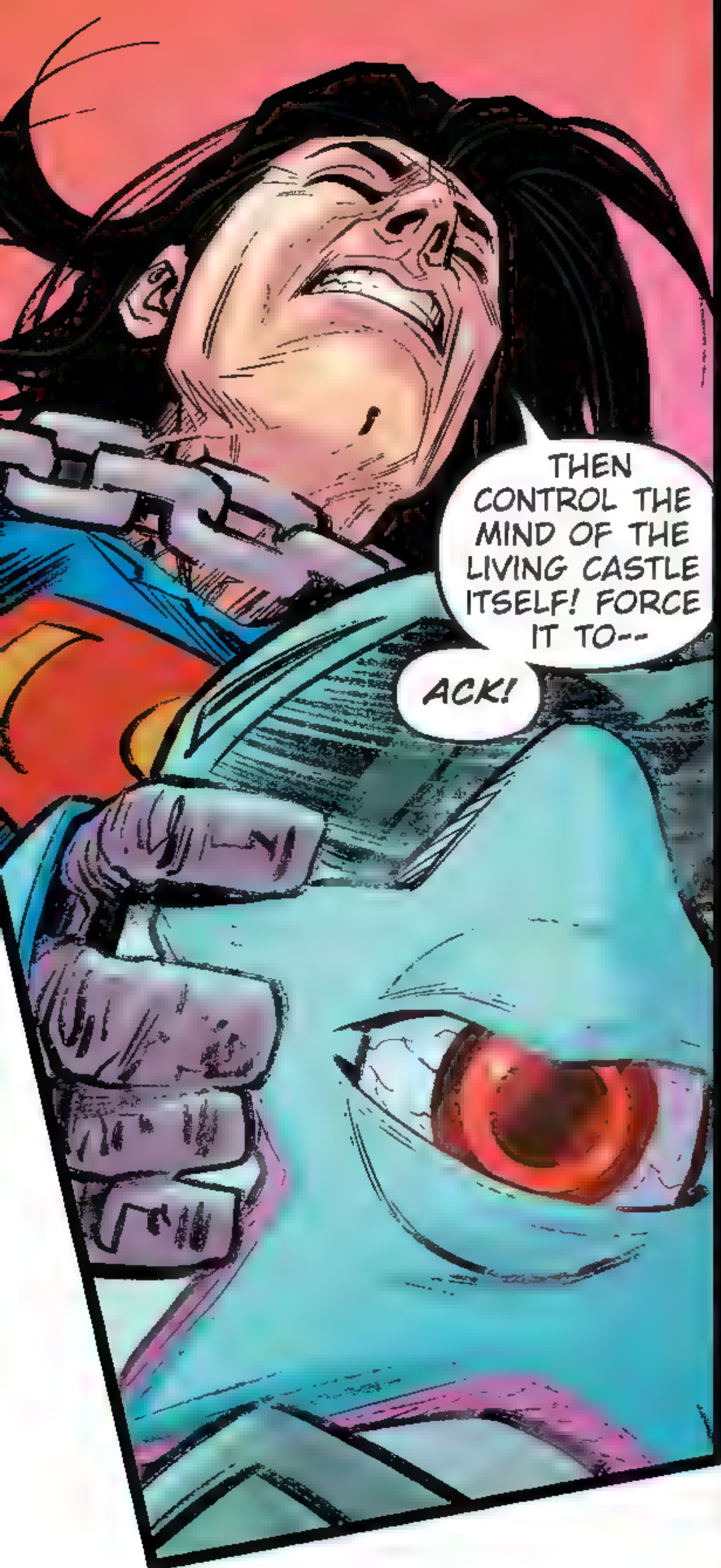
THANKS...

...BUT
I THINK I
MIGHT FIND
MY OWN
PLACE?

WHAT
DID I TELL
YOU...







THEN
CONTROL THE
MIND OF THE
LIVING CASTLE
ITSELF! FORCE
IT TO--

ACK!



FORCE IT
TO OPEN A
WAY OUT!
ON IT!



GOOD
WORK,
JARRO.

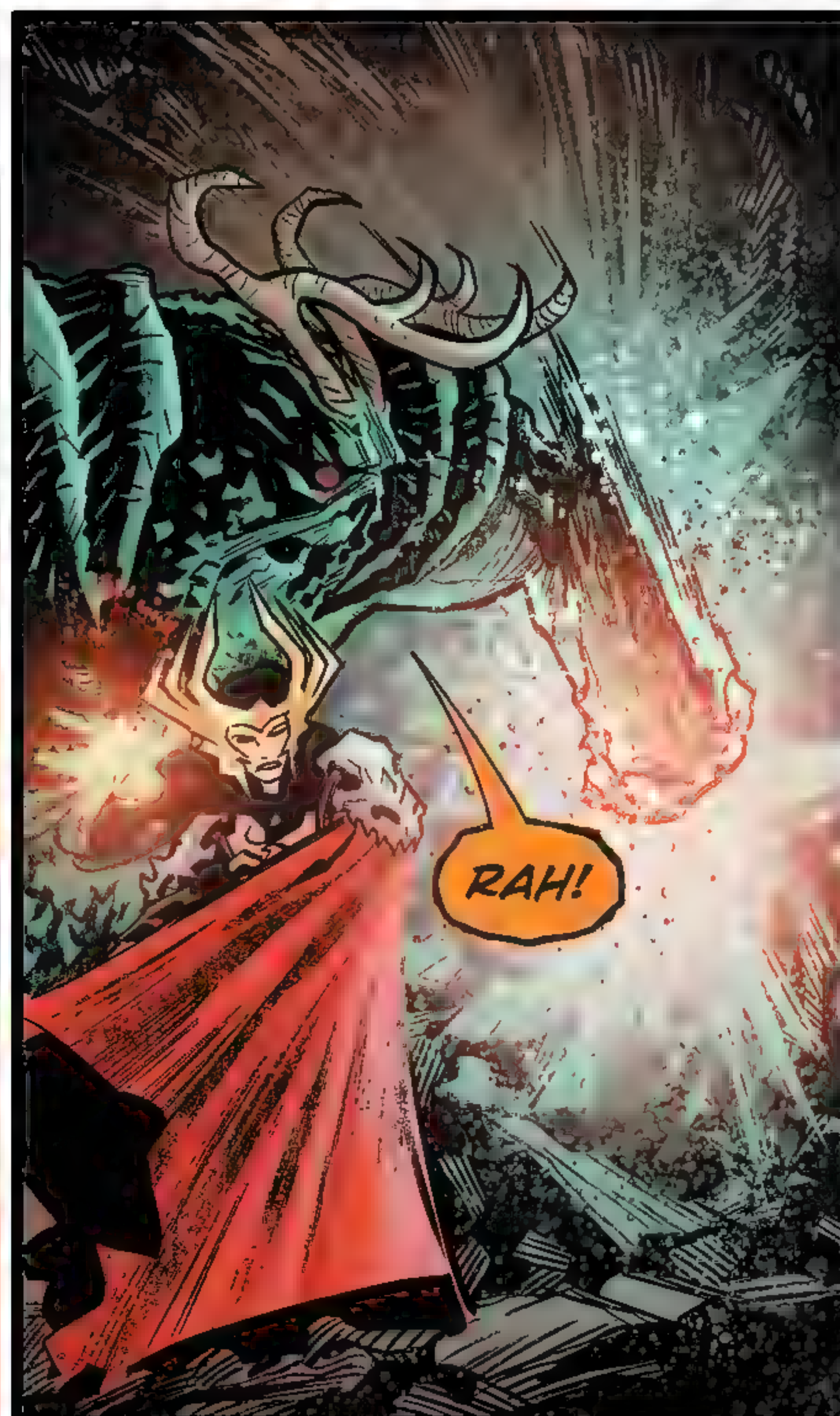
THE
ALFRED BOX...
IT'S VIBRATING.
THE PORTAL TO
THE DARK MUST
BE NEAR!



ALEC, YOU AND
THE OTHERS GUIDE
US OUT WHEN WE
COME BACK.

AND WE
WILL COME
BACK.

I KNOW
YOU WILL.

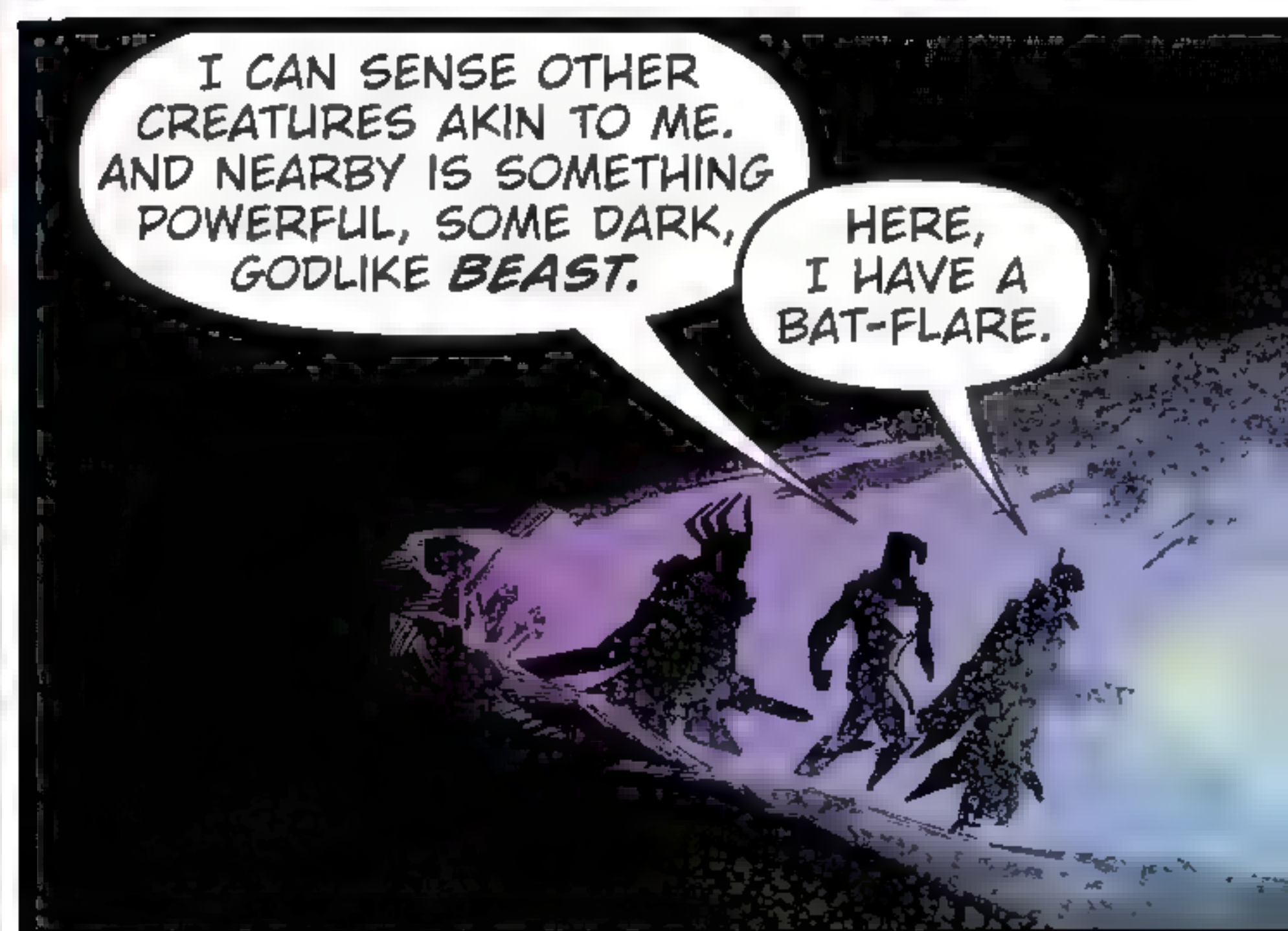


RAH!



CLARK,
BRUCE...LET'S
DO THIS.

WAIT, THE
ANTI-LIFE THAT'S
INFECTING ME...



I CAN SENSE OTHER
CREATURES AKIN TO ME.
AND NEARBY IS SOMETHING
POWERFUL, SOME DARK,
GODLIKE BEAST.

HERE,
I HAVE A
BAT-FLARE.



GREETINGS,
HEROES.

BARBATOS?!



THIS IS
ALL YOUR
FAULT!

YOU'RE THE
ONE WHO BROUGHT
THAT LAUGHING
THING FROM THE
DARKNESS IN THE
FIRST PLACE!



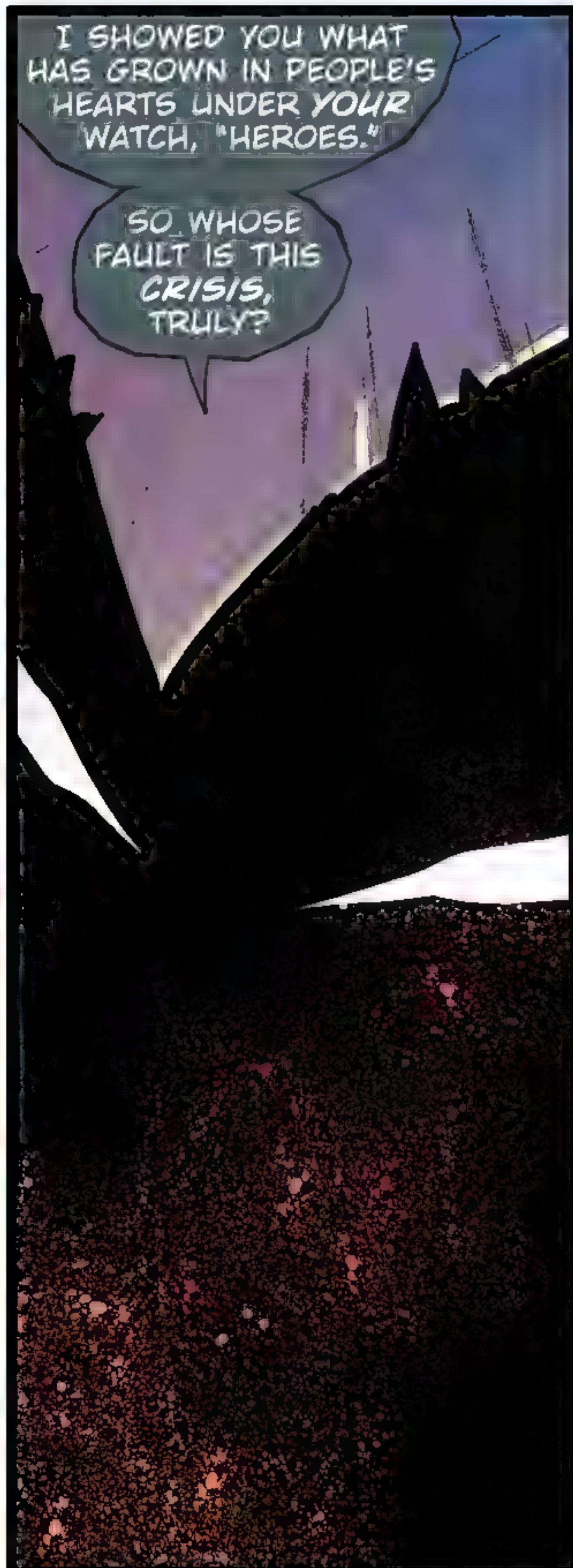
IS IT? BEFORE I ROSE UP AND BROUGHT HIM HERE, MY ROLE WAS AT THE **FORGE OF WORLDS...**

...WHERE EARTHS MADE FROM THE GREAT HOPES AND NIGHTMARES OF EVERYONE ALIVE ARE BORN INTO THE DARK.



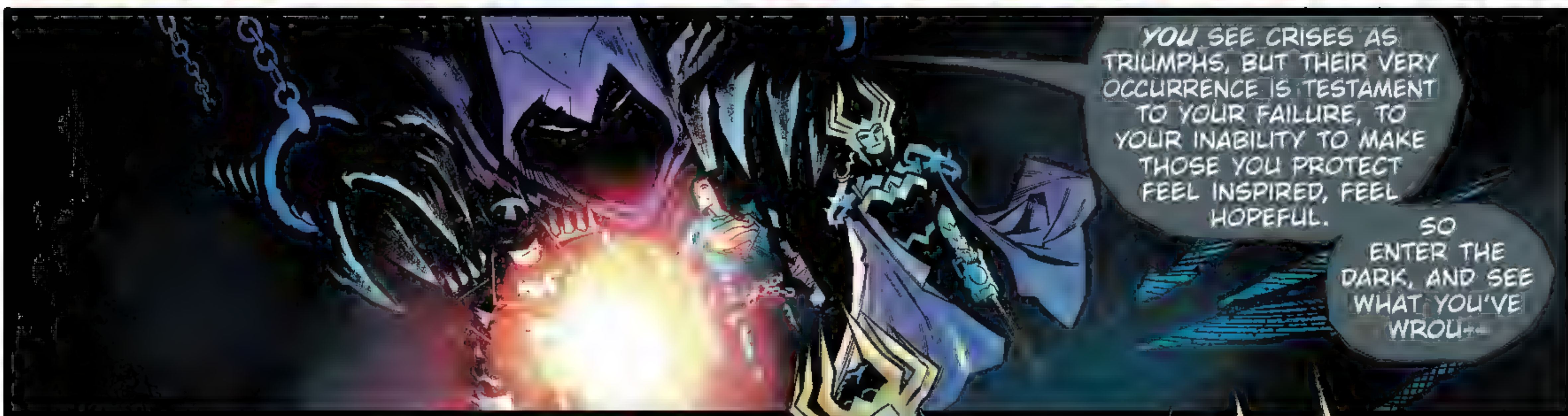
BUT IN THE LAST YEARS, I WATCHED MY REALM FILL WITH MORE NIGHTMARE PLANETS THAN EVER.

WORLD UPON WORLD OF ANGER AND SELFISHNESS AND FEAR AND HATE. ALL I DID WAS BRING MY REALM HERE FOR YOU TO SEE.



I SHOWED YOU WHAT HAS GROWN IN PEOPLE'S HEARTS UNDER YOUR WATCH, "HEROES."

SO WHOSE FAULT IS THIS **CRISIS**, TRULY?



YOU SEE CRISES AS TRIUMPHS, BUT THEIR VERY OCCURRENCE IS TESTAMENT TO YOUR FAILURE, TO YOUR INABILITY TO MAKE THOSE YOU PROTECT FEEL INSPIRED, FEEL HOPEFUL.

SO ENTER THE DARK, AND SEE WHAT YOU'VE WROU...



WHAT. HE COULD HAVE YELLED FOR HELP.

AND, IT FELT GOOD.



HEY JARRY, IS IT TRUE THAT FOR YOU STARFISH WHOOPIE IS BASICALLY YOU LEAVING A FOOT SOMEWHERE TO GROW INTO ANOTHER YOU?

I'M NOT A STARFISH, HEX, BUT I'LL HAPPILY LEAVE A FOOT IN YOUR--

QUIET.



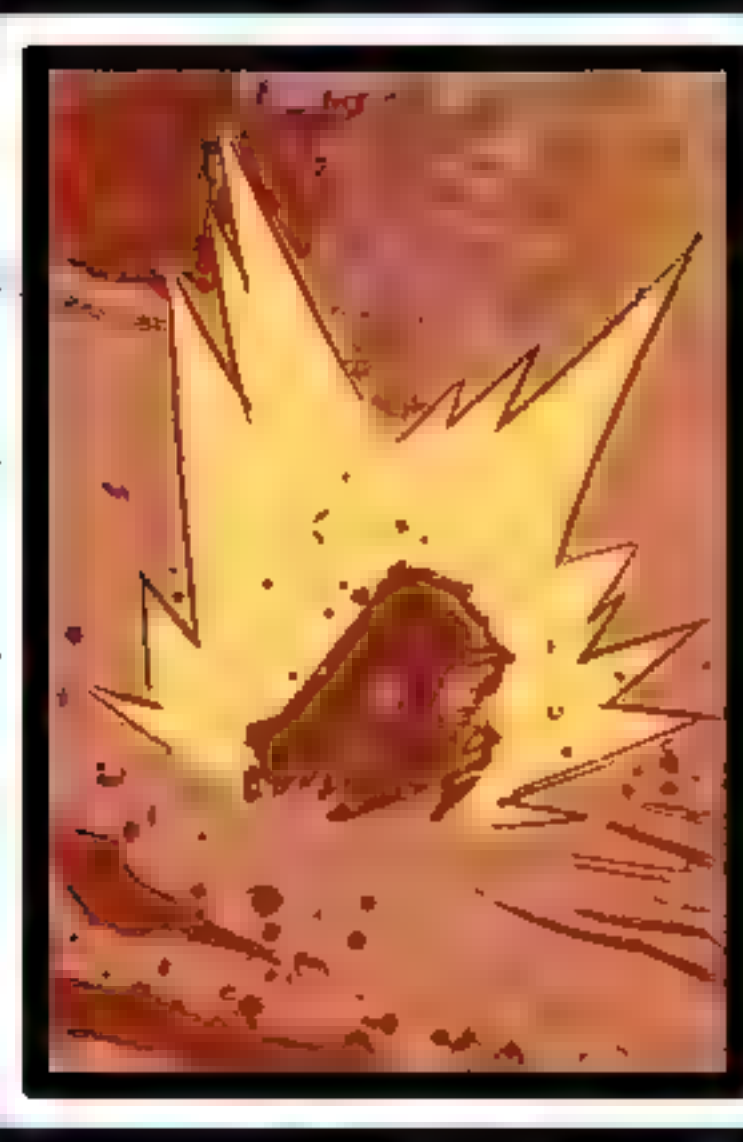
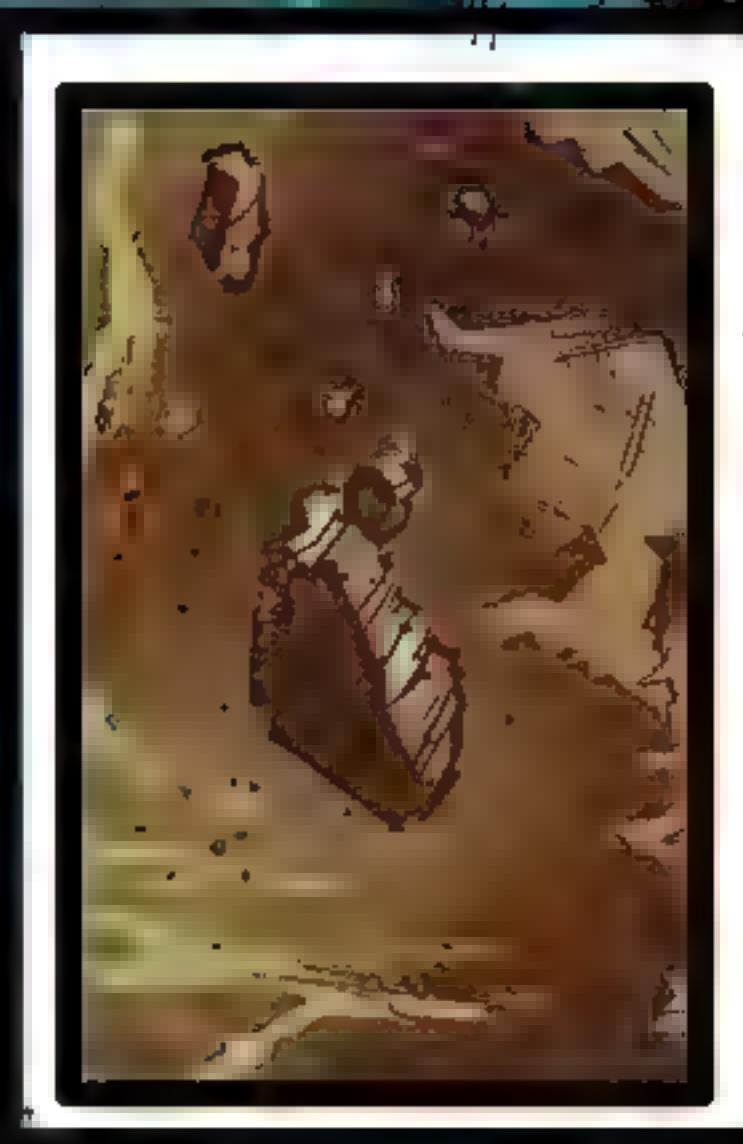
WHAT IS IT? ARE THEY DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE?

NO...SOMETHING ELSE. SOMETHING EVIL COMES THIS WAY...



BIG GREEN'S RIGHT! LOOK! A PORTAL!

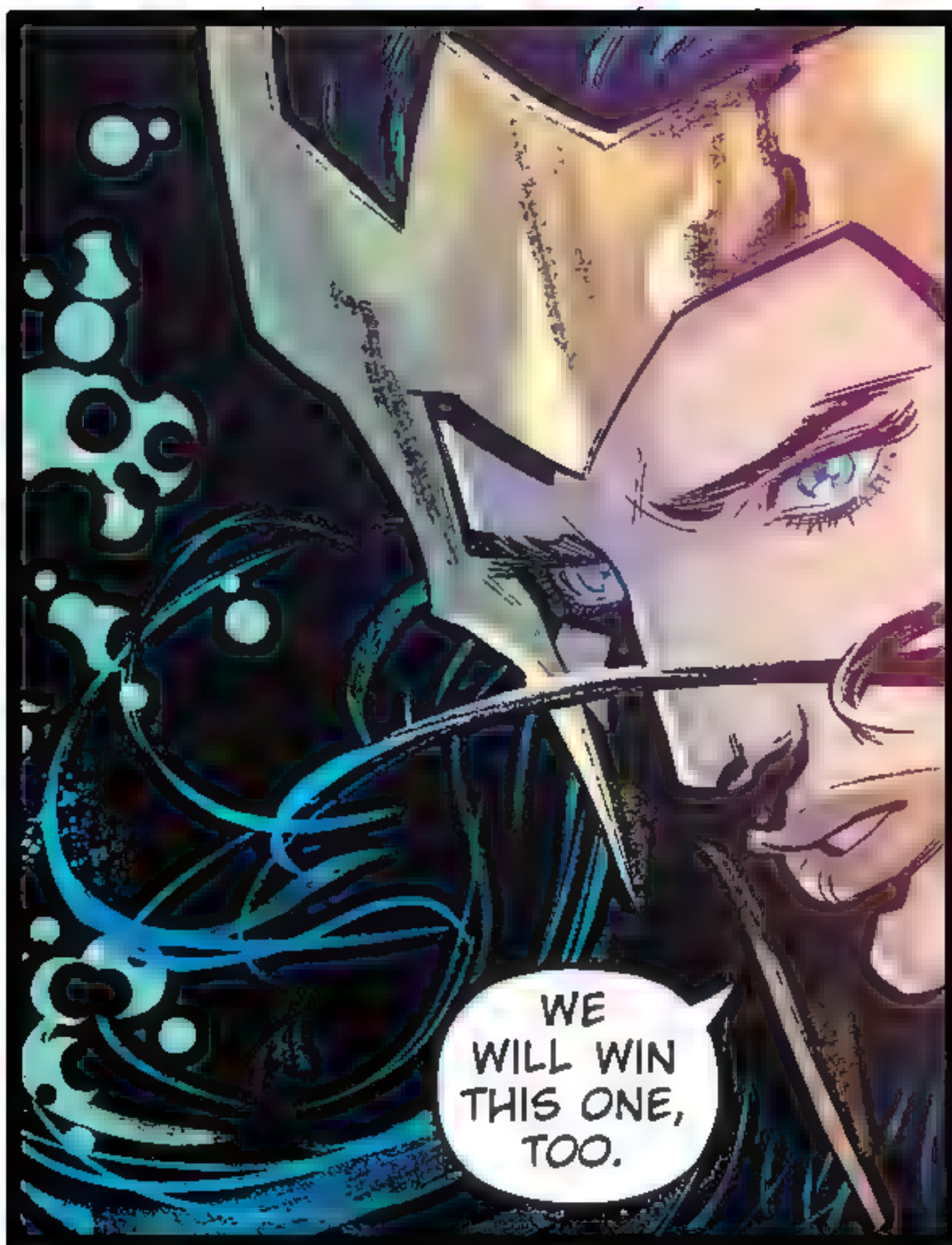
SHOW YOURSELF! WHO ARE YOU?!



SORRY, SORRY! MY NAME'S THE ROBIN KING, GUYS, AND I JUST CAME TO SHOW YOU MY UTILITY BELT.

IT'S GOT SOMETHING SPECIAL FOR EACH OF YOU...





NOT TO HURT YOUR FEELINGS, BUT YOU WERE WAY FASTER ON MY WORLD, ALEC. YOU GOT IN SOME REAL LICKS BEFORE I FINALLY KILLED YOU. HAHA!



CAN'T YOU DO ANYTHING, JARFISH?! BRAIN-SLAM HIM OR SOMETHIN'?

I'M TRYING! BUT THE LITTLE PUNK HAS SOME DEFENSE AGAINST ME!

I TOLD YOU, I HAVE SOMETHING FOR EACH OF YOU!

LIKE THIS! YOU'D THINK THIS R STANDS FOR ROBIN, BUT ACTUALLY?

IT'S ROT.

I COATED IT IN THE BLOOD OF ANTON ARCANE! THERE'S A LITTLE BIT OF ABBY'S IN THERE, TOO.

GOOD STUFF, RIGHT?

AAAAARGH!





I GOT
SOMETHING
SPECIAL FOR
YOU, YOU
LITTLE---

I
DON'T ACTUALLY
HAVE MUCH FOR YOU,
HARLEY. SEE, ON MY
WORLD YOU FIGURED
ME OUT EARLY, WHO I
WAS. BEFORE ANYONE
ELSE CAUGHT ON.

NOTHING FANCY WITH
YOU, I JUST HAD TO
SHOOT YOU DOWN.
WITH A PLAIN...
OLD... AGH!

YOU ALMOST
GOT ME, TOO!
DIDN'T HAVE
THE **BELT**
BACK THEN.

BELIEVE IT
OR NOT, THAT'S
MY BLOOD ON
THERE, RIGHT
UNDERNEATH
YOURS! HA!

WHAM

THEY
ALL THOUGHT I
WAS A BAT, A SAD
BOY, MOURNING
HIS PARENTS IN
DARKNESS.

NOT
A **ROBIN**
SINGING
INSIDE.

AND
YOU... YOU CAME
FOR ME IN MY OWN
HOUSE WITH THIS
MALLET.

LEMME
GUESS. YOU
WERE GOING TO
SAY "GUN", AM
I RIGHT?

=>HUFF
HUFF<- HEY,
EXACTLY.

BLAM



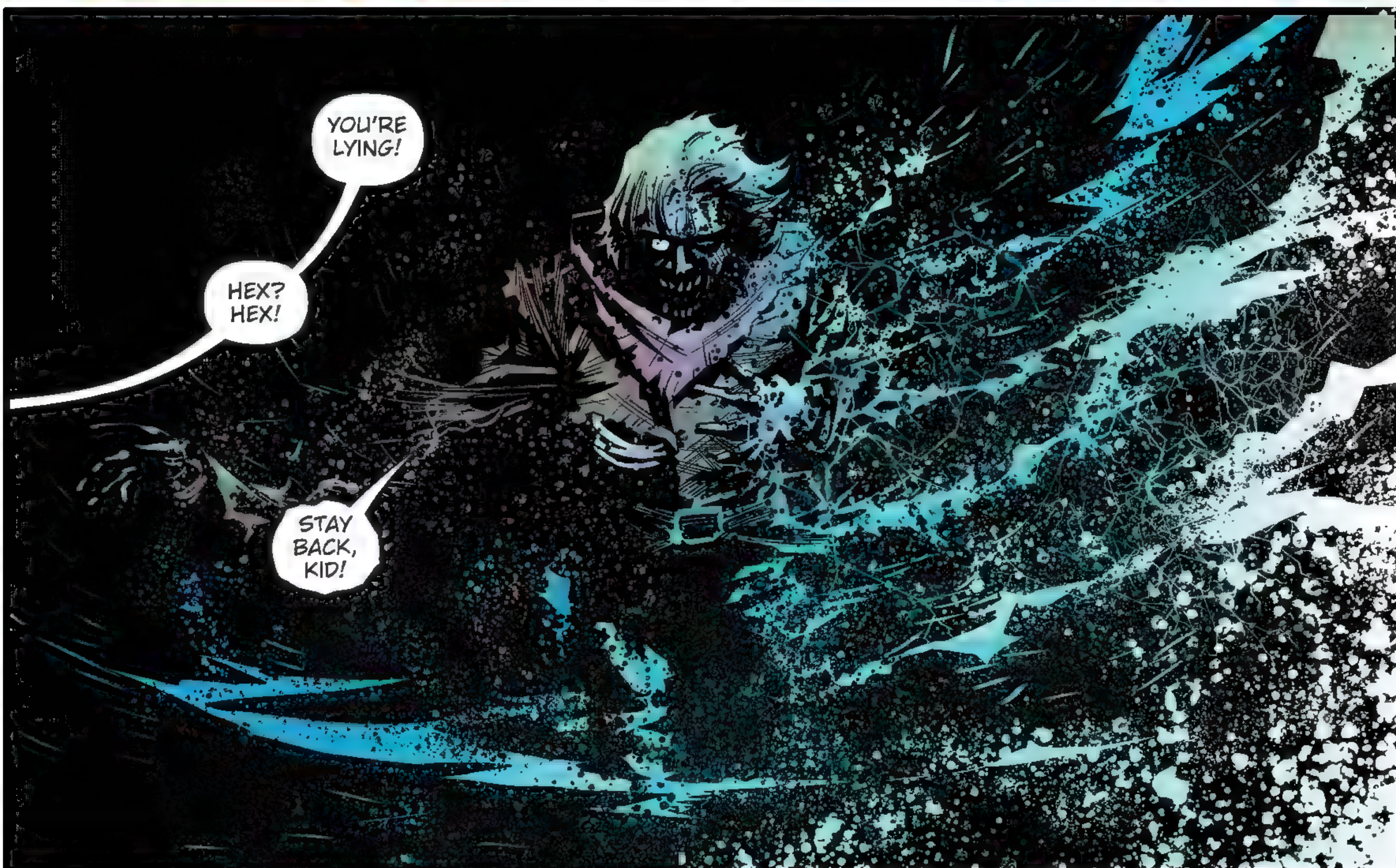
JOKE'S
ON YOU,
BRAT!

YOU
CAN'T KILL
HIM. HE'S
DEAD!



SURE I
CAN! THAT BULLET IS
LOADED WITH SOMETHING
CALLED A "DEBRIDER." IT
EATS NECROTIC TISSUE,
USUALLY FROM THE
EXTREMITIES
INWARD.

IT'S
SUPER
EFFECTIVE
STUFF!



YOU'RE
LYING!

HEX?
HEX!

STAY
BACK,
KID!



REMEMBER,
EXPENDABLE OR
NOT, EVERYTHING
MATTERSSSSSS...



"IF WE'RE NOT CLOSE ENOUGH I WON'T BE ABLE TO REACH THEM, AND THEY'LL BE LOST DOWN THERE!"

"WE'LL FIND A WAY! RIGHT NOW WE JUST HAVE TO HOPE THEY LAND WHERE THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO!"

THE ENERGY IS DIRECTING US!

HOLD THE MEMORIES OF OUR VICTORIES IN YOUR MINDS!

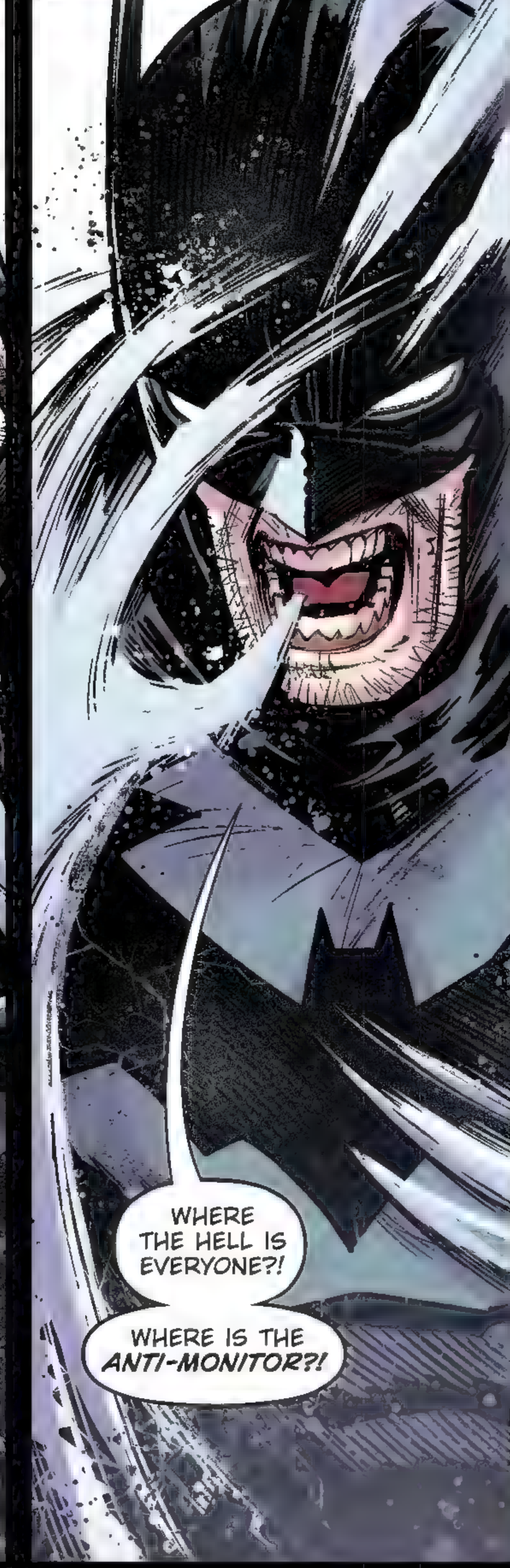
IT'S WORKING! I CAN SEE **DARKSEID** AS HE LOST... I'M ALMOST THERE!

AND I SEE THE **ANTI-MONITOR** RIGHT AT THE MOMENT...





THE CRISIS ON INFINITE EARTHS.





WHAT
IN...

THIS IS ALL
WRONG.

ON THE
CONTRARY,
KAL-EL. THIS IS
EXACTLY AS IT
SHOULD BE.



THE GRAVITY OF THAT
WORD "CRISIS."

SUDDENLY SHE
UNDERSTANDS WHAT I TOLD
YOU EARLIER. THEY ARE
MOMENTS WHEN EVERYTHING
CAN CHANGE IN AN INSTANT.

AND THE ONE WHO LAUGHS
SENT US AHEAD TO CHANGE
THESE WORLDS. MAKE NEW
ENDINGS FOR THE STORIES.

THE ANTI-MONITOR,
DARKSEID, AND ME.

WE HAVE
SHAPED THEM INTO
A NEW HISTORY. THE
RIGHT HISTORY. THE
ONE THAT SHOULD
HAVE HAPPENED.

IT'S ALL THERE
IN HER EXPRESSION.
THE REALIZATION...



BUT I SAY
IT ANYWAY...

I AM
**SUPERBOY
PRIME.**

AND ON THESE
CRISIS WORLDS,
WONDER WOMAN,
YOU LOST.

TRINITY CRISIS

SCOTT SNYDER WRITER FRANCIS MANAPUL ARTIST
IAN HERRING COLORIST TOM NAPOLITANO LETTERER
MANAPUL COVER KYLE HOTZ VARIANT COVER
MARIE JAVINS AND ANDREW MARINO EDITORS
SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER.
BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE JERRY SIEGEL FAMILY.

NEXT: TO BE CONTINUED IN
**DARK NIGHTS:
DEATH METAL #4!**



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SEPTEMBER 12

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TRISTIAN J. UNITED STATES



MOHAMED H. UNITED ARAB EMIRATES



ROSS D. PHILIPPINES



MICHELLE M. COLOMBIA



O-JI U. JAPAN



BAREUN K. SOUTH KOREA



VLADIMIR M. CANADA



KANATA W. JAPAN



MIGUEL A. ARGENTINA



JUSTIN E. UNITED STATES



KEENEN B. UNITED STATES



RAQUEL S. AUSTRALIA



ROBERT H. UNITED KINGDOM



MIKE A. PHILIPPINES



SALVADOR V. MEXICO



TOMO M. JAPAN



ISELIN F. NORWAY



NEKOMI K. PHILIPPINES



CODY R. UNITED STATES



BRIAN TORRES A. PERU



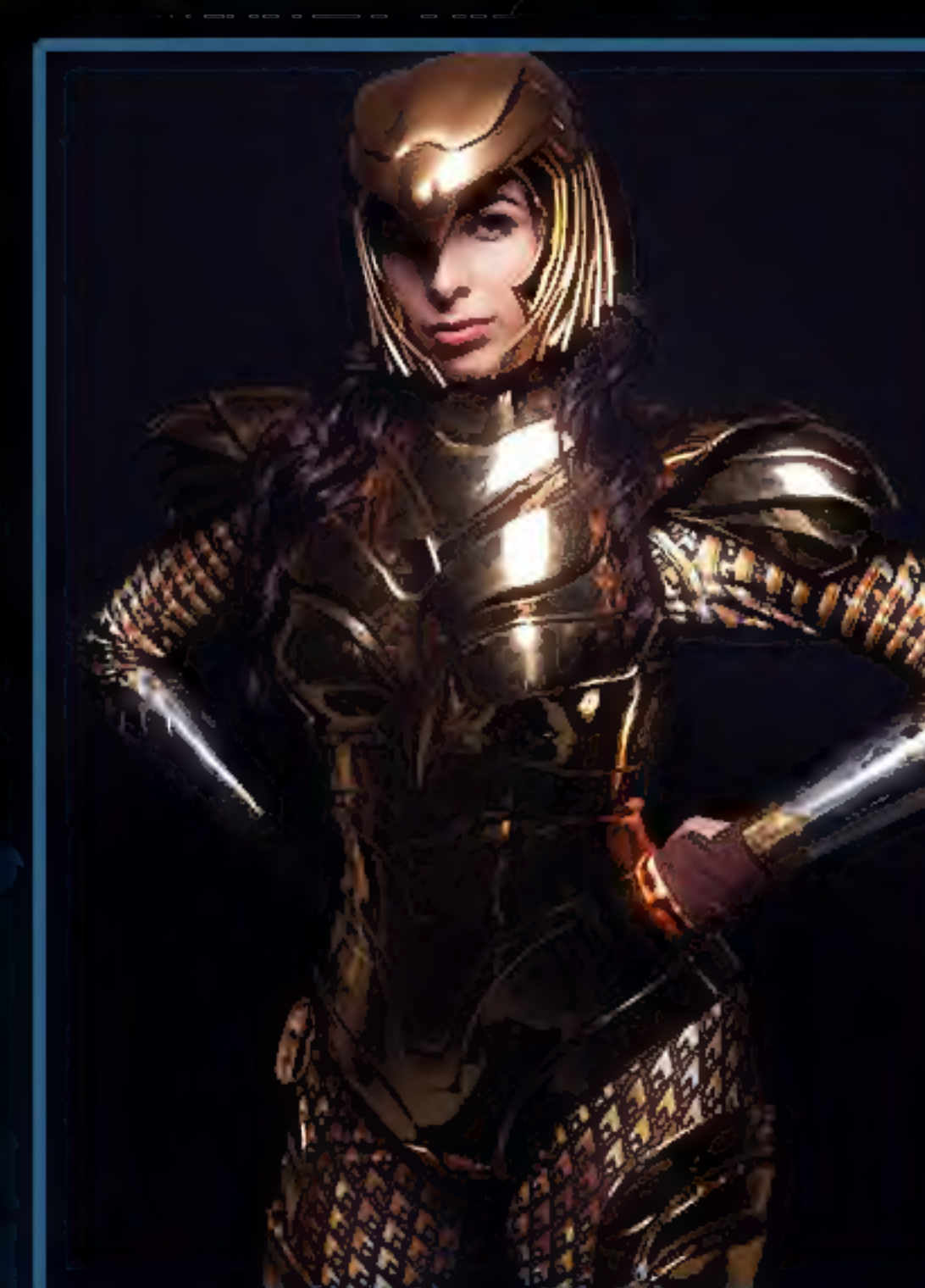
CORBEN R. UNITED STATES



FARABI Z. MALAYSIA



LEELAND M. CANADA



PHOENIX R. AUSTRALIA



JOCELYN W. AUSTRALIA



MARK S. PHILIPPINES

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EXPLORE THE MULTIVERSE

EXPLORE THE BEST FAN ART FROM AROUND THE WORLD
VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE FINALIST

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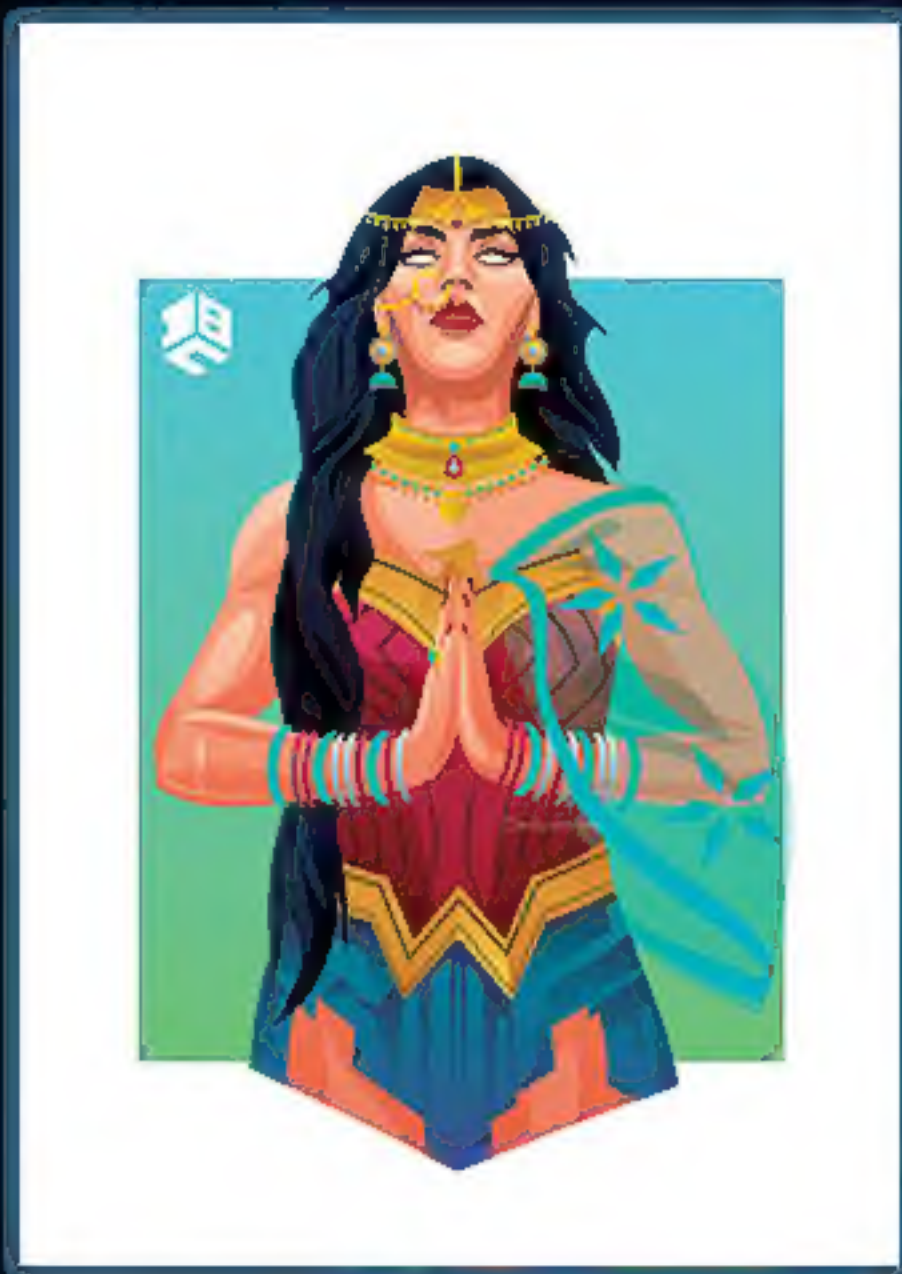
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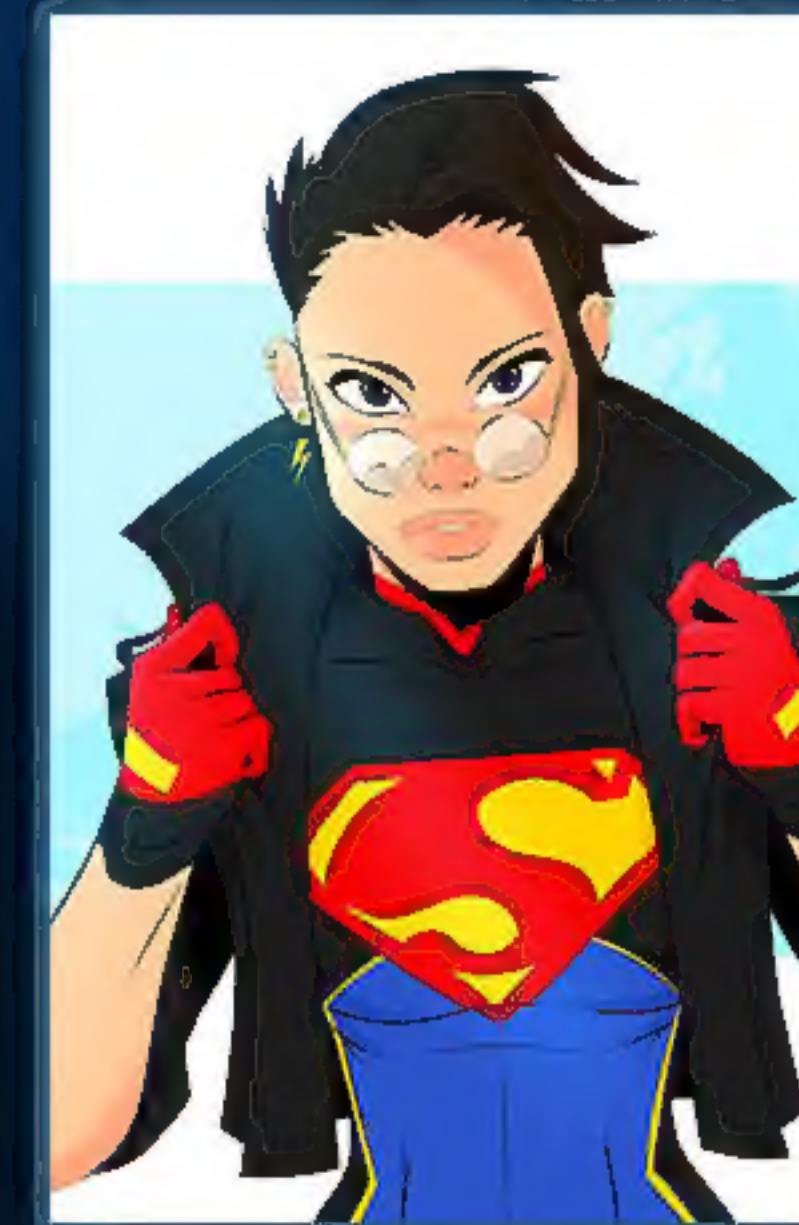
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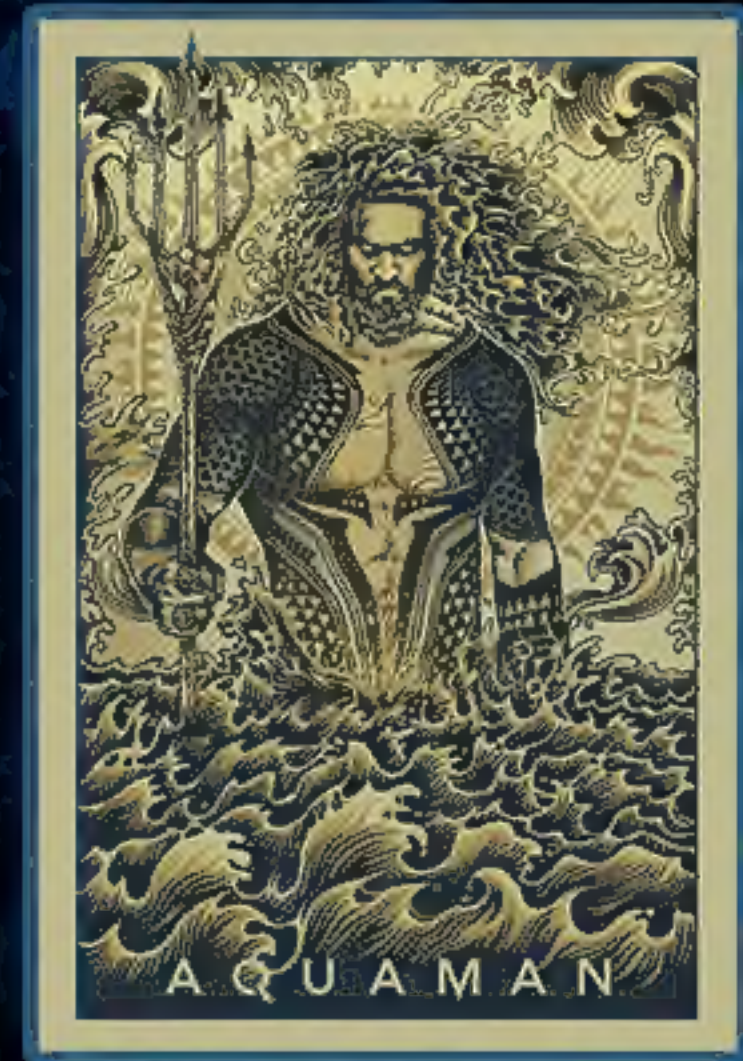
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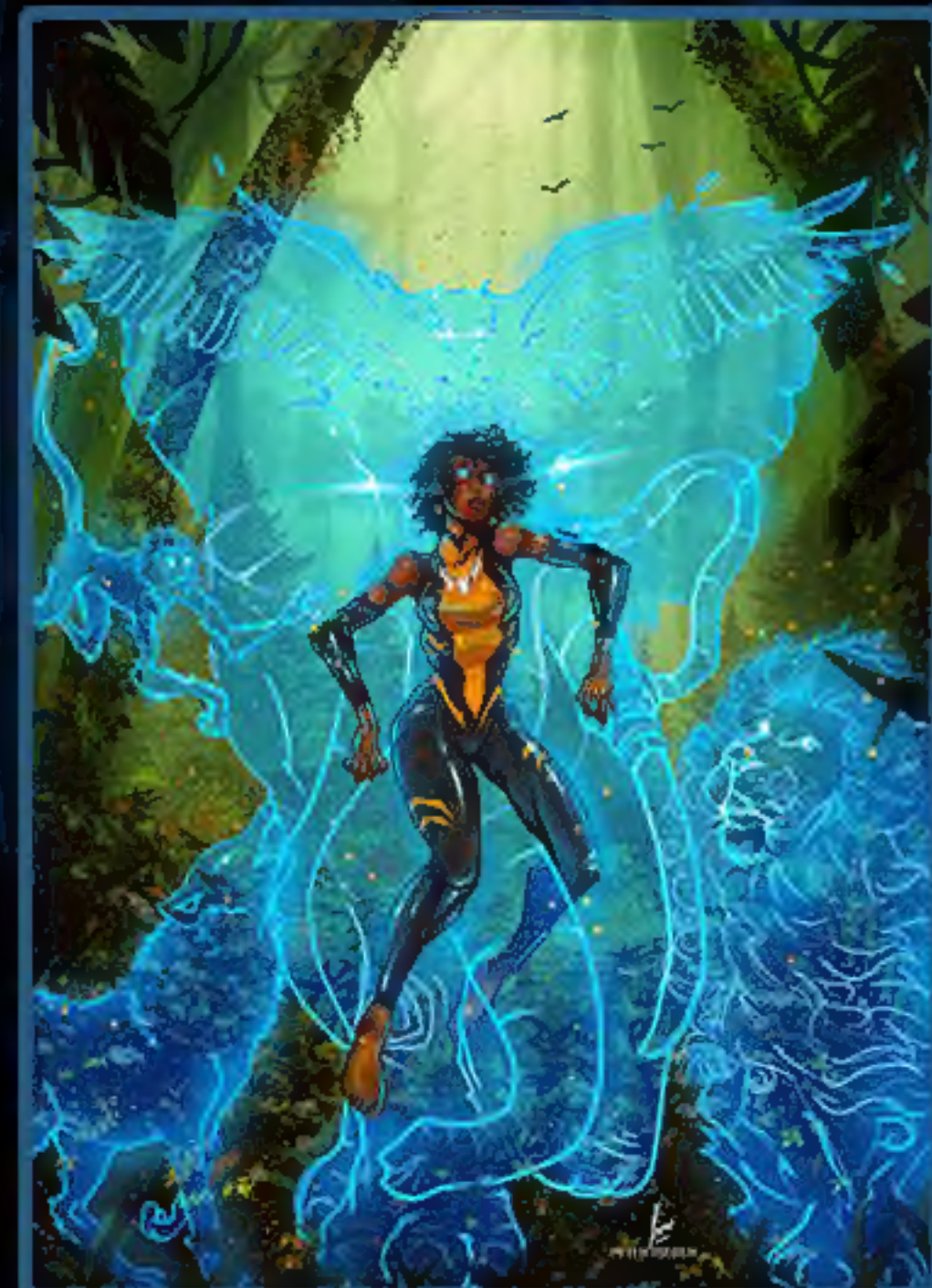
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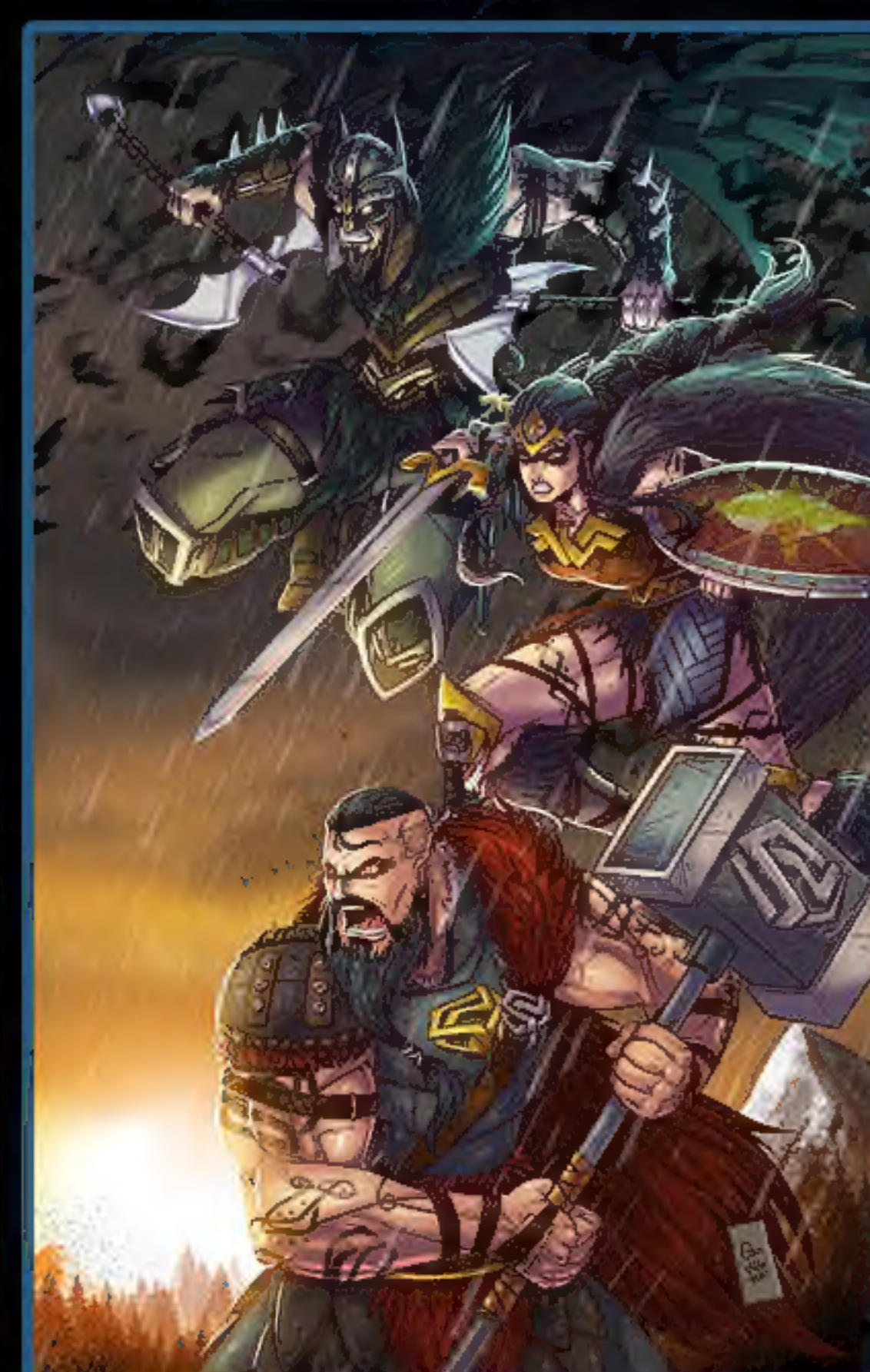
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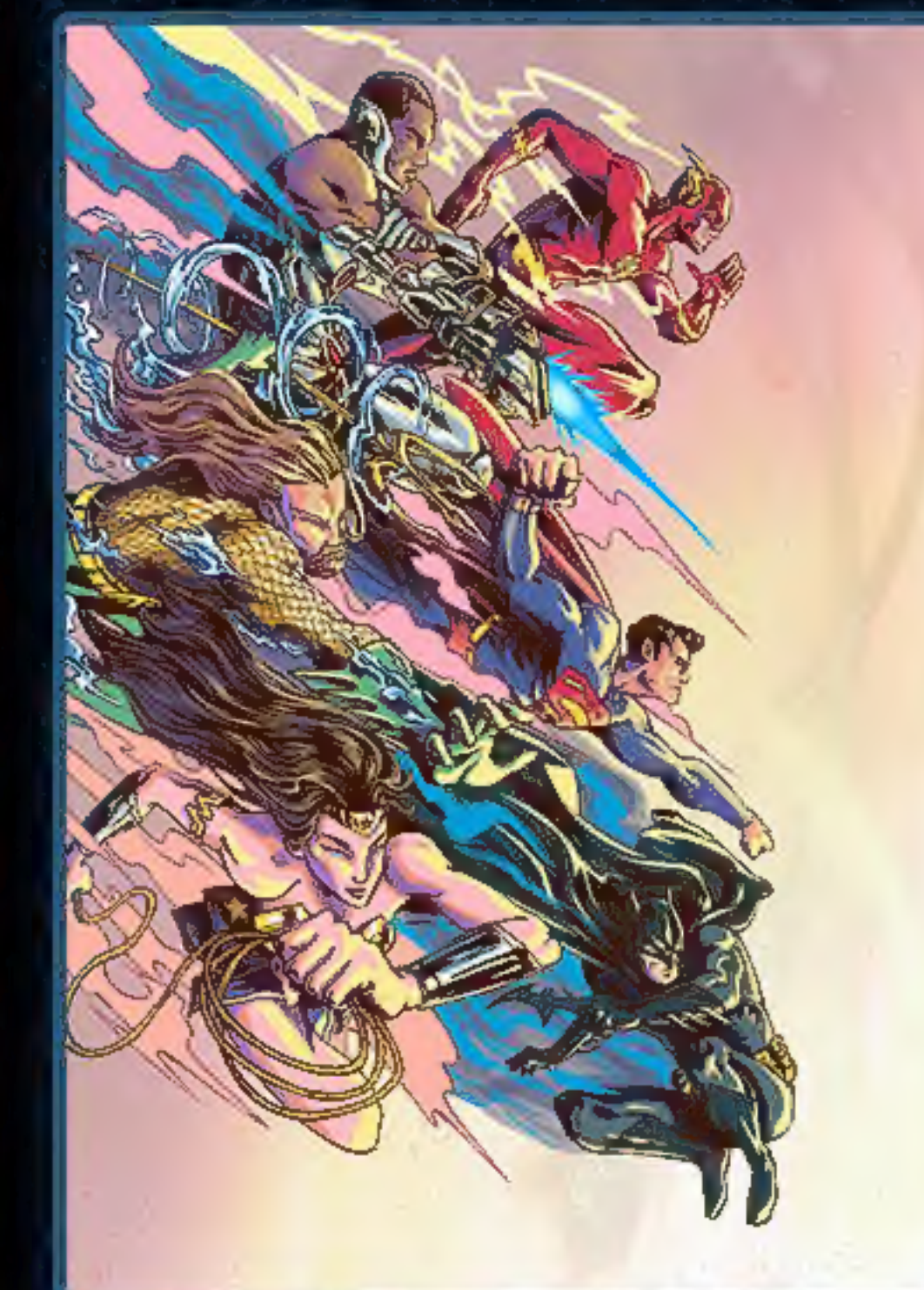
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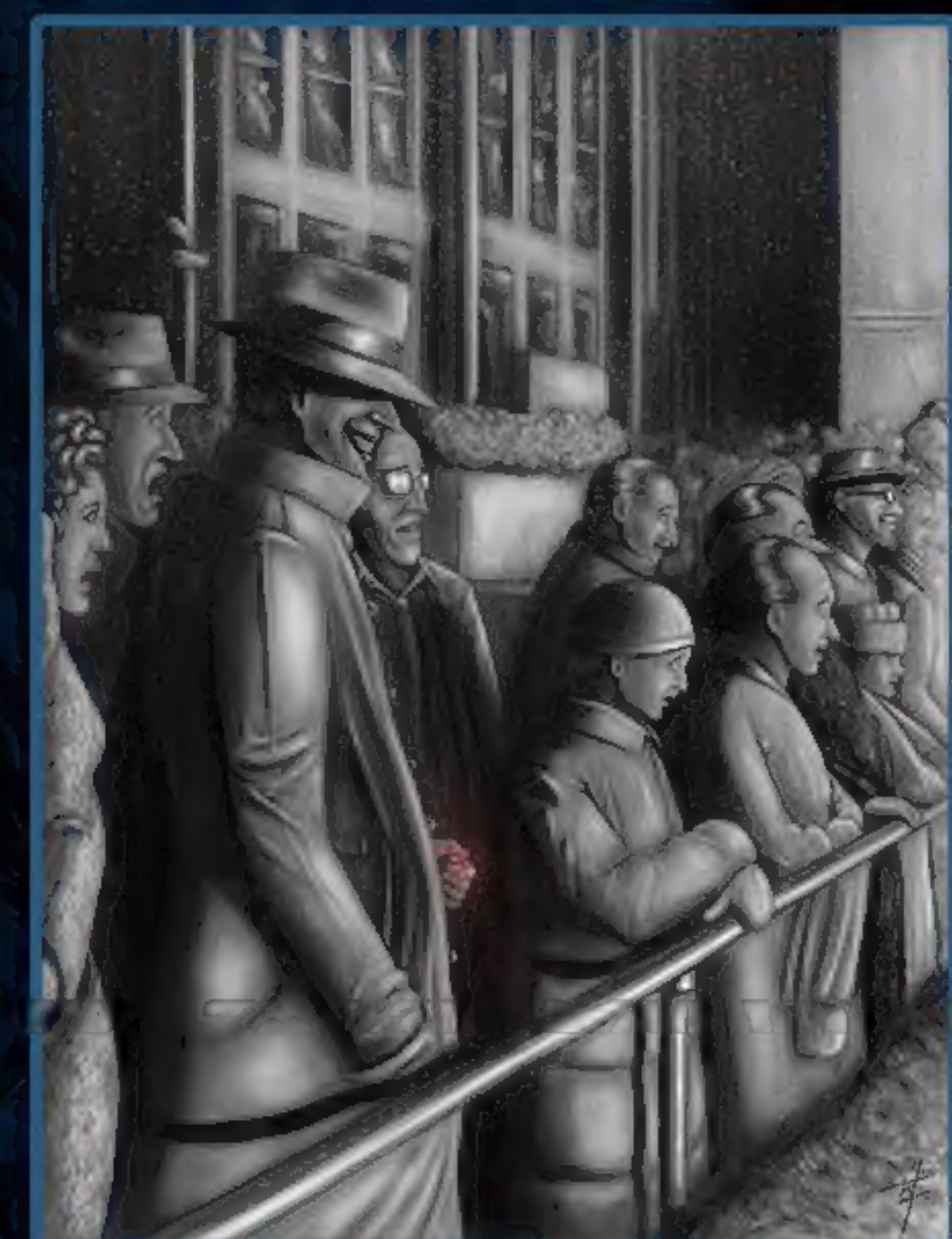
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DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON

Teen Titans: Beast Boy is New York Times bestsellers Kami Garcia and Gabriel Pico's follow-up to the bestselling DC young adult graphic novel *Teen Titans: Raven*. *Beast Boy* takes place concurrently to *Raven*, and presents an updated origin for Gar Logan, a senior at Bull Creek High School looking to stand out—before getting his wish in a way he never expected.

TEEN TITANS BEAST BOY



What is it you love about Beast Boy?

Kami Garcia: Gar is a sweetheart through and through. Even when he's brooding, he's still lovable. The media is constantly sending the message that bad boys are cool. I love seeing a genuinely sweet boy next door as the hero of the story.

Gabriel Pico: I love his superpower—the way he can shape-shift into any creature at will. My favorite aspect was drawing the various stages of his transformations! At some point in the book he still doesn't know how to fully transform, but he gets the animal's powers on a molecular level—telling that visually was such a fun challenge.

As this is a solo book, Gar is not only the comic relief guy. It was very different for me as a fan of this character to draw him experiencing frustration, anger, and other complex feelings.

Like *Raven*, this graphic novel stays close to the main character's origins while updating them with a current sensibility. What was your process in creating this version of Beast Boy?

Kami Garcia: I'm a fan and Beast Boy is such a cool character, so I didn't want to change his personality. I wanted to dig deeper and add layers, so readers get to see him do more than crack jokes.

Gabriel and I take a more grounded approach to the characters with less focus on them being superheroes and more emphasis on them being teens. The biggest challenge was how to handle Gar changing into animals so it would feel realistic. He still changes, but he also channels the powers of animals when his fight-or-flight response is triggered.

What were some of your favorite scenes to illustrate?

Gabriel Pico: One of my favorites was when Gar opens his social media to see that he went viral. There's not a lot of action going on but this is the slice-of-life sort of scene that I love to draw.



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